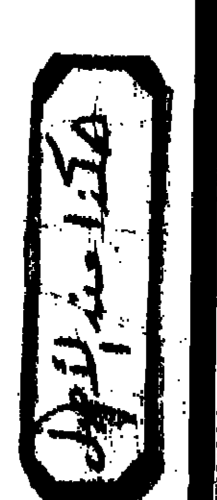


The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C
ISSN 0016-8858

burg, 21 August 1983
ty-second year - No. 1096 - By air

Europe urged to step into Chad crisis

rope has been sharply criticised at Shape, the Nato headquarters, for doing enough in Chad.

worry is that American forces become over-committed if they to be sent in to help out in the cri-

tern Europe's raw material, trade curity interests are at stake, runs gument, so Europe itself should re.

east five African states are said by and EEC experts in Brussels to urged France to intervene in

ey include Senegal, Niger and the Coast, all of which are of vital in- to France and Western Europe as ers of raw materials such as ura-

llowing a coup by pro-Gaddafi in Upper Volta they were worri- e situation in Chad might lead to er destabilisation in the region.

at would endanger the relatively cratic regimes of pro-Western ries. It would also threaten com-

IN THIS ISSUE

ly supplies to France and Western pe.

e Gaddafi movement might also d to them and other countries, as Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco. ituation in the western Mediterra- would then take a turn for the e.

to officials term Libya a local su- wer that needs to be heeded even, h it has a population of only three on.

l. Gaddafi's forces are said to be mely disciplined and enthusiastic t their leader and superior to those l neighbouring countries except t.

e crucial factor is, however, the ing Col. Gaddafi has, as a devout lim and Islamic fundamentalist, the atheist Soviet Union.

ere are persistent rumours of enor- s stockpiles of arms and equipment ibya under the command of a Red y general.

hey could be used in a matter of hours by Soviet troops airlifted from southern Russia.

Between 1,500 and 2,000 large freighters and up to 5,000 smaller cargo vessels a day carry goods to and from Western Europe in the Mediterranean.

European industry depends on this trade for a living, and the European industrial region is the second-largest in the world after the United States.

Safeguarding the right of innocent passage for Mediterranean shipping is thus a crucial issue for Europe.

It would be endangered the moment the Soviet Mediterranean fleet had enough bases between Gibraltar and the Dardanelles.

As yet the Soviet Mediterranean squadron lacks these bases, which is why the Red Fleet in the area consists of two thirds supply vessels.

Let us assume Col. Gaddafi were to follow up the seizure of power by his friends in many African countries (including Tunisia, where he recently sought in vain to stage a coup) by takeovers in Algeria and Morocco.

Pro-Soviet policies would prevail on the southern coastline of the Mediterranean and danger would be in the offing *for Western Europe.*

Moscow might harbour hopes of gaining access to Algerian naval facilities at Mers el-Kebir after more than 20 years waiting.

The Red Fleet would then have a base in the western Mediterranean, which could be sure to have repercussions on the outcome of the proposed plebiscite in Spain on whether to stay in Nato.

In this situation the Americans at Nato in particular fail to see how the Europeans can, by and large, quietly enjoy their summer holidays while Col. Gaddafi *tries to fan the flames of revolution.*

The Libyan leader's repeated attempts to enter into cooperative relations with Western Europe are seen as politically inadequate proof of friend*ship until evidence to the contrary* is forthcoming.

The Federal Republic of Germany buys roughly five per cent of its crude oil from Libya, but the Americans are not impressed.

Above all, they are dissatisfied with France for only gradually deciding to commit French forces and equipment in Chad.

France is biding its time partly because of commercial interests in Libya and partly in view of domestic objections by the French coalition parties, the Socialists and Communists, to operations that are felt to reek of neo-colonialism.

If Col. Gaddafi succeeded, the entire economic system of Western European prosperity might be called into question, Nato officials warn.

Western Europe would be surrounded, with Soviet forces stationed to its south and capable of ending freedom of the seas in the Mediterranean whenever Moscow saw fit.

So the Common Market countries are called on to do more for the Maghreb states: Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco.

Hermann Bohle
(Kieler Nachrichten, 11 August 1983)

(Cartoon: Haitzinger/Saarbrücker Zeitung)

US tactics may pay off in Central America

Many critics are saying US military intervention in Central America is morally indefensible and politically *ill-advised.*

Yet the fact is that the build-up off the coast of Nicaragua and San Salvador is accompanied by remarkable offers to negotiate.

Not for ages have there been so many signs of a possible diplomatic settlement. President Reagan's special envoy is finding everyone willing to talk.

Fidel Castro, a constant troublemaker in the region and in American eyes the sole scapegoat, says he is prepared to withdraw his agents from the disputed areas (subject to certain conditions of course).

US Secretary of State George Shultz feels things are on the move. But in which direction? That is the question.

Can we be sure that military pressure onits own will lead to the right solutions? The Reagan administration seems by no means convinced this will be the case.

Its aircraft carriers and troops are under orders to keep up the manoeuvres held jointly with Honduras for at least six months and maybe longer.

Yet one can hardly dismiss US scepticism about negotiations held without pressure such as the Contadora group (Colombia, Panama, Venezuela and Mexico) has sought in vain to hold.

Talks of this kind are unlikely to make headway. A combination of the two is needed if negotiations are to be a success.

So it is a little too easy to dismiss gunboat diplomacy out of hand, as Social Democrats such as Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski do and Free Democrats such as Helmut Schäfer have taken to doing.

From a safe port it is easy to engage in polemics and advise Bonn not to back everything Washington does out of mistaken solidarity.

Much to the chagrin of US government officials Bonn does not go in for that kind of solidarity in any case; it has even kept up its ineffective development aid to Nicaragua.

The US government must be allowed a *certain leeway in its choice and use of* means, especially as it is a government constantly observed by a vigilant Congress and critical journalists and called on to justify each and every move it makes.

Bonn would do well to observe restraint on two main counts, the first being that Central America is not a part of the world that is of immediate interest to Germany, whereas it is to the United States.

Second, we cannot refuse our most powerful ally the freedom of decision to which we ourselves lay claim.

Those who feel a German Ostpolitik must continue to be pursued in the national interest and regardless of US objections can hardly blame the Americans for insisting on a solution that is to their liking in Central America. That leaves the moral assessment, but even in the moral sector over-hasty judgments would be ill-advised. Central America is extremely difficult terrain.

Gerhard von Glinski
(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 12 August 1983)

■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Crisis in divided Lebanon poses a confused challenge for US envoy



President Assad of Syria says Israel and the United States want to partition Lebanon. Israel's Defence Minister, Moshe Arens, says it is the Syrians who are keen to partition the country, and the Americans agree.

The Lebanese, whose country is at stake, have for weeks been engaged in a desperate bid to make the impossible possible and get all foreign troops to withdraw from the entire country.

In Beirut the visit to Washington by President Gemayel was felt to be one of the last opportunities of solving the Lebanon crisis.

Hope and scepticism are now concentrated in equal measure on the mission undertaken by the new US special envoy, Robert McFarlane.

The situation could hardly be more muddled. Lebanon, tiny though it is, is practically split into three.

Israel occupies one third of the country, the south and the south-west. Syrian forces control over a third of the country, the north and the Bekaa valley in the east.

Only Greater Beirut is currently held by the legal government. What is more, Israel's plans to withdraw from the contested Chouf mountains are no less serious a problem for the central government.

The left-wing Socialist Progressive Party, the Druse party led by Walid Jumblatt, refuse to allow Lebanese troops to be stationed in its territory until a political solution has been arrived at that guarantees the rights of the Druse community.

In particular, it would like to see the community's rights guaranteed with regard to the right-wing Christian militia of the ruling Phalange Party which the Druses feel have sneaked into traditional Druse territory in the Israelis' wake.

While President Gemayel was in Washington Mr Jumblatt, with Syrian backing, joined forces with Rashid Karame and Suleiman Franjieh to set up a new Opposition group, the National Salvation Front.

They said they were going to set up a counter-government and virtually declared war on the regular Lebanese army.

War would be declared, they announced, if the Lebanese army were to march into the Chouf mountains once the Israelis withdrew to southern Lebanon, as they had said they intended to do.

For the past eight months a no-holds-barred struggle has been waged in the Chouf mountains between Druse irregulars and Phalange militiamen.

Israel is likely to go ahead with its withdrawal plans. The Lebanese are afraid this partial withdrawal may cement the division of their country into three.

Despite protestations to the contrary the Israelis have settled in as though they planned to stay in southern Lebanon for years.

The Syrians persist in their viewpoint that Syrian troops will not be withdrawn until the last Israeli has left Lebanon and the withdrawal agreement between Israel and Lebanon as arranged by the Americans has become null and void.

Syrian leaders stress that the agreement as it stands is a threat to Syrian security and makes Lebanon dependent on Israel.

Many Lebanese have visions of a new civil war that would consign Lebanon as a separate state to the dust-heap of Middle East history once and for all.

The Druses, who as they see it are merely defending their territory against the Christian Phalangists, are by no means alone in regarding the Lebanese army as an arm of the right-wing Phalange Party, which is run by Maronite Christians.

Nabih Berri, the political leader of the Shiites in Beirut, recently stressed in terms of unprecedented trenchancy that the army would be finished if it were to advance into the Chouf mountains.

Lebanon as a united political entity would likewise be finished unless a political compromise was reached beforehand by all religious groups.

He added that the Shiites wanted an army for all Lebanese and not an army that was merely an instrument of the Christians who already ... power in the state.

Shiite Muslims have always ... disadvantage in Lebanese so... now demand their rights. ... hundreds of thousands of ... largest refugee community in ...

Greater Beirut has a pop... two million, or roughly two th... country's population. Their ... ditions are catastrophic, whi... social problems have grown ... plosive.

So there can be no denying ... Gemayel government faces ... greater dilemma today than a ... ago.

It is no longer enough to ma... the left-wing Opposition, with... backing. It is no longer enough ... reign Minister Elie Salem to ... to a new formula, then to new ...

Plebiscite call

President Gemayel's call for ... cite in the Syrian- and Israeli-... areas is not much practical use ...

Israel and Syria have partitio... banon with the aid of the Unite... and the Soviet Union respectiv... will not hand back what the... taken without further ado.

These are the facts. The optim... pressed by Lebanese leaders h... of a solution to the conflict ... amazing and hardly justified, ... as Lebanon stands little hope ... val.

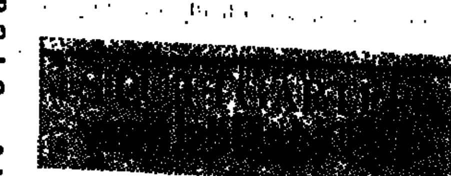
Hopes will be dim as long ... Muslim majority community ... real share in power and no st... made to improve social condit... the poor masses.

Marcel ...

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 14 Aug...)

Man is said to be a creature of habit. How else is one to account for the stoic equanimity with which people in Iran and Iraq have endured the war of attrition between their two countries for the past three years?

Dragged-out Middle East war pollutes desert and sea



It is a war that has extinguished every spark of enthusiasm, any belief in the victory promised; a war of which the purported final offensive has been proclaimed half a dozen times, only to grind to a halt in the sand.

It is a war that has become habitual, a part of everyday life under two dictatorships. The only way to end it soon could well be the collapse of one or the other.

It would be best of all if both reigns of terror were to vanish!

Not only the participants have grown accustomed to the war; so have the onlookers. They are only occasionally taken aback when out-of-the-ordinary news is heard from the front or they themselves look like being affected by the fighting.

Oil has been gushing from bombed oil rigs into the Persian Gulf for the past six months without causing either a worldwide ecological catastrophe or an economic catastrophe on world oil markets.

It can only be a matter of time before the Gulf War, and the oil pollution as one of its most appalling consequences, emerge in world affairs.

What if, as so often in the past, all efforts to cap the oil and to sue for peace fail because the two sides are too fanatical and the mediators lack competence and authority?

The oil men would be there in a matter of days and the well would be capped in a few weeks if only they were allowed to get on with it.

But that would call for at least a partial truce, and neither side is prepared, even six months after the greatest catastrophe in the history of the Gulf, to agree to terms.

Iran, Iraq and five other Gulf states were only able to agree at Manama that their oil slick was the biggest ever and needed surveillance, but outside the zone of hostilities if you please!

So to this day no-one knows how much oil a day gushes out of the well that has sprung a leak after Iraqi aerial bombardment.

The Iranians say it is "only" 320,000 litres a day. Other estimates suggest the true figure is 1.6 million litres a day.

The Gulf states plan to confer again at some time or other. Maybe they will then decide to erect a joint memorial to the tortoises, dolphins and fish in the Gulf that have been exterminated by the oil pollution.

On their own they are clearly unable to arrange for a political agreement betweed Tehran and Baghdad on finally getting to the root of the problem.

It will be even more difficult to separate the two sides and persuade them to agree to peace terms that make neither side appear to be either the winner or the loser.

Both have been forced to abandon their respective war aims. Iraq, the aggressor, has failed to "liberate" the Iranian province of Khuzistan and its Arab-speaking people.

Iran, the counter-attacker, may for the most part have retaken lost terrain, but there is no longer any talk in Tehran of a march on Baghdad and the collapse of the hated Baath regime.

Is it impossible to reach agreement on the pre-war Shatt el-Arab border that Iraq unilaterally renounced, overran and has since respectedf?

Tehran's astronomically high reparations claims on Baghdad seem to be negotiable, but who is to get the two sides round the conference table?

The United Nations, the non-aligned movement, the Islamic organisation and individual countries such as Turkey have so far tried in vain.

The contribution of the two superpowers and others, especially Fra... tended to prolong the war by ... of weapons even though it is ... ther side can win.

Iran and Iraq currently resem... worn-out boxers neither of wh... enough strength left to knock th... out yet neither of whom is prep... call it a day.

They have grown accusto... fighting: an eye for an eye, a tooth... tooth. Their seconds egg them ... weapons, pocketing the proceeds ...

Fanaticism, or is it fatalism, ... ers on both sides has driven ... youngsters of war-weary people ... one battle after another for three ...

How long must it go on? For ... 1,000 days?

Heinz Mü...

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 11 Aug...)

The German Tribu...

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH, 23 Schoene ... Hamburg 76, Tel.: 22 85 1. Telex: 02-14733.

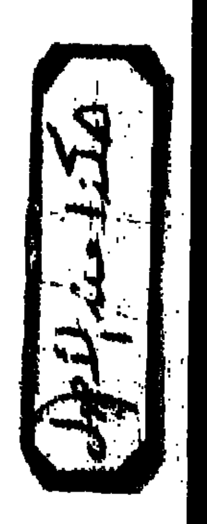
Editor-in-Chief: Otto Heinz. Editor: Alexander ... English language sub-editor: Simon Burnett ... bution Manager: Georgine Picone.

Advertising rates list No. 15 — Annual subscription DM 45.

Printed by Druck- und Verlagshaus Friedrich ... Bremen-Blumenthal. Distributed in the USA by ... MAILINGS, Inc. 540 West 24th Street, New York ... 10011.

All articles which THE GERMAN TRIBUNE ... published in cooperation with the editorial ... leading newspapers of the Federal Republic of ... ny. They are complete translations of the original ... no way abridged nor editorially redrafted.

In all correspondence please quote your subscr... number which appears on the wrapper ... asterisks, above your address



EUROPE

Declarations alone are not enough to ease tension

Both Bonn and East Berlin agree that war must never again begin ... German territory. Both have reiterated this policy since Helmut Schmidt ... Erich Honecker established it together.

But something more is needed if tension is to be reduced.

Time marches on and autumn, when ... decision on the deployment in Germany of the new generation of American missiles must be made, is just round the corner.

The governments of Helmut Kohl ... Erich Honecker should forcefully ... their respective alliances — and ... all the two superpowers — to ... the missiles issue.

This can be done by each side separately, making full use of diplomacy; it ... also be coordinated.

What matters is to waste no time. De... is not only in the interest of the ... Germanys. It affects all European ... tions on both sides of the fence. They ... should all become involved in this task ... which is, of course, easier within ... than within the rigid corset of the Warsaw Pact.

But even there it is quite possible that many small members of the Pact ... ignore the prestige needs of the ... Kremlin.

Moscow has long lost the grip on the communist camp that enabled it to make individual members toe the line ... decree.

It is no secret that there are plenty of ... obstacles both in Nato and the Warsaw Pact.

France and Britain, nuclear powers in their own right, see the Geneva arms limitation talks more in the light of their national interests than in the light of the need for détente — especially in this critical year.

But there must be a way of breaking this vicious circle. There will soon be an institution for this very purpose: the Conference for Disarmament in Europe which the CSCE delegates in Madrid have agreed to establish. But this will of course not begin its work by the autumn.

It is necessary to tackle the task before then. Nobody should be allowed to take the easy way out by saying that such efforts are pointless.

What matters is not to underestimate the positive signs that are in evidence and make full diplomatic use of them.

The Soviets have always pursued a two-track policy. Where West Germany is concerned, they beat their propaganda drums, threatening to erect a missile fence between the two Germanys should the new US weapons be deployed.

At the same time they knot new ties with this country wherever possible and send out signals to indicate that other and better things are possible.

Not too much should be made of the sabre rattling by Soviet Defence Minister Ustinov.

At the last East Bloc summit, the Soviets were unable to bring about new threatening resolutions. They were evidently dealing with partners who had become more self-assured and were unwilling to add their part to the frostiness of the international political climate.

It cannot have been Rumania's unruly Ceausescu alone who prevented Moscow's nuclear muscle flexing.

Moreover, the surprise Soviet-American grain deal at this particular time proves that the two superpowers depend on each other despite their constant baring of teeth.

Despite the anticipated good harvest inthe Soviet Union this year, Moscow needs American grain just as Washington has to sell its surplus to the "evil incarnate" to avoid domestic problems.

It is also no coincidence that the Soviets are making such speedy progress with the gas pipeline to Europe. This East-West energy axis will lead to further interdependence.

It drives it home once more that economic interests are one thing and propaganda another.

Despite confrontation on the arms issue, the Soviets extol the advantages of cooperation.

The Madrid CSCE Final Act must be seen in a similar light. Anybody who has taken the trouble to fight it out in Madrid over several years in order to make a bit of progress — no matter how meagre — does not want to sever ties but wants to go on talking.

Yuri Andropov and his politburo realise that putting an end to talks, diplomacy and cooperation in many fields would be tantamount to cutting off one's nose to spite one's face.

Even President Reagan and his team must face the same fact once they rid their line of argument of its ideological elements.

The DM1bn loan to the GDR fits into this picture. It would be neither politically nor economically logical to borrow the money and then close the borders.

Therefore, this transaction is another important stone in the mosaic. Putting it all together, we do not get a super sharp picture that would instantly convince the sceptics; but their contention that all chances have already been is clearly disproved.

What is needed is the courage to think the seemingly unthinkable — the same courage the late French President de Gaulle once showed.

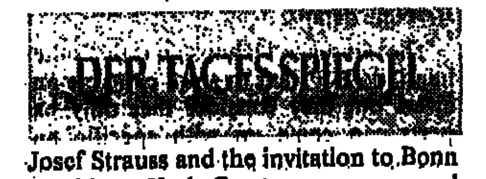
And exactly this is the task that Bonn and East Berlin have shouldered — a task by which they will be measured not only by history but by their people today.

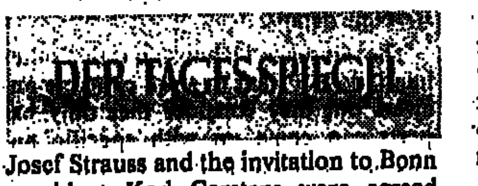
Helmut Kohl and Erich Honecker should bear this in mind.

Helmut Bauer

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 6 August 1983)

East Berlin shows a new image of self assurance





East Berlin has been able to take more decisions on its own since ... Andropov came to power in Moscow.

The government of Erich Honecker is ... with much more self-assurance. ... of this is because the country is growing in importance economically in ... East Bloc.

A reflection of the change in attitude between East Berlin and Moscow is the removal of Soviet Ambassador Pyotr Abrassimov.

Abrassimov spent two terms in East Berlin where he behaved with the air of ... Soviet commandant. Sensitivities of ... East Germans did not worry him much.

It is well known in Moscow that, after spending nine years in East Berlin, ... was sent back for a second term because it was thought this would be the ... way to control Honecker.

Abrassimov had suggested Honecker ... successor to Walter Ulbricht as head ... the East Berlin government.

So the GDR government had no choice but to put up with the affront ... accept Abrassimov's return.

East Berlin still follows Moscow policies. It is safe to assume that the loan arranged by the Bavarian leader Franz Josef Strauss and the invitation to Bonn president Karl Carstens were agreed with Moscow.

The fact is that Honecker asked Moscow whether it had any objection to the revival of the German-German dialogue. There was none.

It is not by chance that Abrassimov's departure coincided with the revitalisation of German-German ties.

Informed sources in Moscow say that the visit to East Germany by CSU leader Franz Josef Strauss had long been planned but that Honecker had only now been able to issue the invitation.

More scope for East Berlin means that the chill between America and the Soviet Union need not necessarily affect Western Europe.

On the contrary. Moscow seems interested in keeping German-German relations free of frost despite the unsolved missiles problem. At least, the Kremlin does not want to use these relations as a means of exerting pressure.

Andropov's statements in his latest public speech (during the visit to Moscow of the Hungarian leader Janos Kadar) clearly show that the Soviets see possibilities of improving the world situation and relaxing the present tensions.

One of the signs pointing in this direction is the near agreement at the CSCE Conference in Madrid.

The small scope of action granted by Moscow has opened up new avenues for German-German relations. Honecker was the first to recognise this chance and is starting to take advantage of it now — evidently with Moscow's blessing.

Peter Seidlitz

(Der Tagesspiegel, 30 July 1983)



Friedrich Reinecke

German Tribune publisher and founder dies

Friedrich Reinecke, founder and publisher of *The German Tribune*, has died at the age of 62.

He was born in Hamburg where he went to school and University.

From smallest beginnings he built up a publishing house that tells the whole world about the Federal Republic of Germany.

It publishes press services, press reviews and magazines.

Work began in 1953 with a press service in Spanish for Spain and Latin America. Then came press services in Portuguese, Arabic and Japanese.

German Features (DaD) was reprinted a millionfold in newspapers all over the world, being sent out at one stage in 40 different languages.

In 1962 Friedrich Reinecke launched *The German Tribune*, a weekly review of the German press aimed at an international readership.

It currently appears in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian.

In 1966 the first magazine was published; covering political, economic, cultural and scientific life in the Federal Republic of Germany.

HeAtid (In Hebrew it means The Future) was the first language edition. Then came *Prisma* in Rumanian and *Profil* in Hungarian and Polish.

After protracted preparations *Guten Tag*, in Russian, appeared in 1979. Readers in the Soviet Union were joined in 1982 by readers in China.

The *German-Chinese Forum* is the latest stone in the mosaic of foreign-language publishing by the Friedrich Reinecke Verlag.

The company may specialise in foreign work but it also engages in domestic activities.

Interpress Verlag publishes a daily biographical press service, also the *West German Industrial Service* (did) on behalf of leading international companies.

Übersee Rundschau is published quarterly on behalf of German foreign trade associations.

Aussenpolitik, the German foreign affairs quarterly, is published in German and English.

At the time of his death, Herr Reinecke was president of the Association of German News Services.

■ RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

Bishops' messages for peace deserve more than a hasty reading

The peace messages of both the German and the American bishops have been judged superficially. And the same will happen when the forthcoming conference of German bishops releases the translation of the American pastoral letter on peace (together with its Dutch, Austrian, Belgian, Irish, Hungarian and East German counterparts).

There will again be hastily handed down praise and censure — perhaps along the lines of the firebrand Catholic theologian Uta Ranke-Heinemann who not too long ago pinned the label "auxiliary Nato bishops" on Germany's churchmen because they were allegedly prepared to tolerate an ABC (atomic, biological, chemical) war. She called the American pastoral letter a "hermaphrodite of manliness and brainwashing."

It is obvious that such criticism must be viewed with reservations.

But the praise some politicians had for the German peace message is also likely to be due to the hasty conclusion that the German bishops have tacitly given their blessing to the deployment of new US missiles in Germany.

Only a careful study shows that neither praise nor censure is warranted on the basis of the text itself.

There have been many comparisons of the American and the German peace messages, primarily to show how reactionary the one is and how progressive the other.

Yet the obvious thing would be to at least try to read the messages carefully in order to distil what the two groups of bishops said or wanted to say. Even these attempts are bound to remain incomplete — but this does not make them superfluous.

Let us start with the heading. The Germans deliberately called their pastoral letter a "Peace Message" while the Americans opted for "Pastoral Letter." This in itself indicates that the American message is more binding than its German counterpart.

The titles also differ. The American message speaks of the challenge of peace, God's promise and our response, indicating the intention to come up with concrete answers. The German message is entitled "Justice Makes Peace," indicating that its theme can perhaps be summed up as "justice is another word for peace."

As if anticipating that the Third World churchmen in Vancouver would complain that the industrial world was so involved in its arms debate as to forget the famine in the Third World, the German bishops took this into account in their message.

A perusal of the American pastoral letter shows how much the American bishops see the problems in a national light. In numerous places they stress that the United States is a superpower with nuclear weapons, reminding the reader that the American church has, since Vietnam, made an about-turn in its assessment of war and peace.

To some extent, this national vantage point also explains why the American letter has had a one-sided fixation on a nuclear war ever sonce the first pages were drafted. This emphasis has remained despite many changes in the text.

There are experts who say that the reason for this is that a conventional war would in any event not be waged on American soil.

The German bishops, on the other hand, write from the vantage point of those whom they have to protect; people who have no power to start a war or to decide on the use of nuclear weapons. As they see it, a conventional was is as evil as a conventional one.

This could be due to the awareness that a conventional war would be as disastrous as a nuclear one for a country like the Federal Republic of Germany.

In any event, the national component should not be lost sight of when comparing the two messages.

This is not so when reading between the lines. Oversimplified, it seems that the Germans think more in terms of a representative democracy while the Americans think in terms of a grassroots democracy.

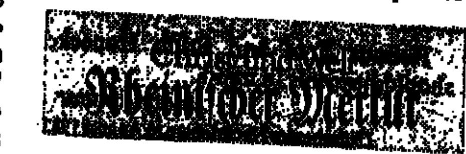
In other words, the Germans rely more on the competence of politicians and experts while the Americans feel entitled — or even called upon — to make their own judgment. They want to act and make the Administration act.

They criticise their Administration in a way that would be unthinkable in Germany.

This could have something to do with the emancipation drive of the American Catholics — unlike in Germany where there are traditionally close ties between the church and the Christian Democrats.

Another question (more or less in parenthesis) is whether the German bishops would have said things differently if Germany was a nuclear power.

Throughout its drafting phase, the American pastoral letter was open to



public discussion. Countless people had their say and were able to form an opinion.

This has both advantages and disadvantages. It is certainly an advantage to make it easy for the public to learn of the ultimate intention.

Misunderstandings about the intention can be avoided when the motion of a bishop to have a passage that was dropped in the second draft reinserted in the third draft is sustained with majority backing.

With the German message, it was only the final result that was made public. There was much speculation, some of it malicious. There can be little doubt that many a misinterpretation could have been avoided if more had been known about the drafting process.

For instance: the fact that one bishop, backed by others, threatened to withhold his approval if the final text retained a passage on the "first strike" with nuclear weapons shows how determined the bishops were not to judge individual weapons or strategies.

Interpretation would have been easier had the public known about this.

The consensus principle of the German bishops was both advantageous and disadvantageous. On the one hand, a paper must be enormously broad and general to be carried by all bishops; on the other, all bishops can later be pinned down on such a text.

Public discussion so far overlooks the common ground of the two messages. For example, they fully agree on the biblical peace concept including quotations to the effect that peace is both a gift of God and a task for mankind.

Both papers are based on a comprehensive concept of peace: peace with God, peace in one's own heart and peace among people.

The peace concept is never just political, and both papers operate on the assumption that there will never be total peace in this world — although this is a task assigned to Christians.

Many critics have applied wrong yardsticks here: it is foolish to apply only strategic criteria to such pastoral letters.

The last chapters of both letters, dealing with the pastoral consequences for peace work, are also very similar though in some cases the accents are placed differently.

Here, the Americans have established a conspicuous link with the abortion issue, holding that we must ask ourselves how long a nation that is prepared to constitutionally guarantee the right to kill defenceless human beings through abortion will show restraint when it seems advantageous, for strategic reasons, to kill millions of innocent people.

Here, too, the Americans are more concrete in their instructions, as in the passage where they urge Catholics to fast for peace on Fridays.

The passages that are addressed to the men and women in the arms industry must also be seen in a national context. Like the passage addressed to soldiers, they tell them quite clearly that they need not have a bad conscience regarding their work because the bishops accept the concept of deterrent though they reject the *use* of nuclear weapons.

The most important difference between the two peace messages lies in the different premises — something that must appear particularly interesting an indeed revolutionary to Catholics in particular. Yet few seem to have noticed this.

The American bishops want to give concrete answers to concrete questions. As good shepherds, they want to point the way to their flock right down to strategic details.

The German bishops, on the other hand, do not want to shirk concrete answers but they consider that only experts can come up with specific answers. They, themselves, provide only the criteria; but as men of the church they have no way of saying whether a strategy meets these criteria.

The extent to which this moral and theological attitude (whereby the bishops provide the criteria while leaving the final judgment to experts) respects the maturity of Christians becomes obvious when the same approach is applied to other moral-theological questions such as contraception.

The dynamite contained in the three criteria that make deterrence only just tolerable becomes obvious when applied to concrete weapons. If this were done we would have to ask:

● Does the deployment of new missiles make the waging of wa[r] more probable?

● Is their deployment nec[essary to] prevent war through deterrence?

● Is their deployment comp[atible with] an effective arms limitation, [re]duction and disarmament [on both] sides?

The onus of proof lies with [the ex]perts. Most people underesti[mate the] radicalness of the bishops' lis[t of cri]teria.

The Americans go a step fu[rther by] condemning the weapons th[emselves] and the first strike. The Germ[an bish]ops avoid the question of wa[r just] as they avoid dealing with th[e indivi]dual weapons which they d[eclare] neither good nor evil.

The only question raised b[y them] deals with suitable means to [prevent] war. It is only under this aspect [of suita]bility that they find the question[able in]strument of deterrent only just [tolerable] because it has evidently preve[nted war] so far.

The line of argument in the [German] paper is dominated by the di[stinc]tion between *safeguarding* pe[ace and] *promoting* it.

The church takes it for grant[ed that it] is duty-bound to promote peace [and lea]ves the securing of it to the sta[te, which] it undertakes to provide with c[ritical] evaluation.

One passage that helps clarify [contro]versial questions and is missi[ng from] the American pastoral letter de[als with] the significance of the Sermon [on the] Mount.

The German bishops do n[ot share] the view the the Sermon is [divorced] from political action. On the [contrary.] The Sermon, they say, provide[s yard]sticks that apply to politicians — and not only in their private [lives,] although these yardsticks can[not be] taken as direct instructions.

Another peculiarity of the G[erman] paper is the chapter on the church['s teach]ings on war and peace in the co[urse of] history.

This passage provides the ba[ckground] for today's discussion within the [church] and is insignificant over and abo[ve that.]

It shows how these teachings [depend] on the situation that prevails at [the time] and that they are therefore su[bject to] change.

It is noteworthy that the conc[ept of] "just war" is dealt with in this c[hapter] and thus made a part of history.

The paper says that this term [is vir]tually obsolete and that, if anyth[ing, one] should now only speak of a "j[ust de]fence".

The Americans, on the other [hand,] still essentially adhere to the pr[inciple] of a "just war," which came as [a sur]prise to many. The Americans [re]gard a conventional war as "less [evil] than a nuclear one.

As mentioned earlier, the G[erman] bishops omit the question of w[ar. Nuclear] War, they indirectly say, is out [of the] question anyway: "It must never [hap]pen."

"Any assessment of nuclear [weapons] strategies that are not in the ser[vice of] this politicial aim (prevention of [war)] must of necessity be totally con[demn]ed."

In other words: If the German [bish]ops were to assess war itself they [would] arrive at conclusions similar to th[ose of] their American counterparts.

But they steer clear of discuss[ing a] "nuclear scenario." They only [thing] they delve into is how to prevent [war,] and here they tolerate deterrence [on the] grounds mentioned earlier. But [this] does not solve the controversial [ques-]

Continued on page 5

PROTEST

The peace movement pulls itself together

[In] a northern suburb of Bonn where [th]e city still has a rural look prepara[tions] are under way for the campaign [again]st stationing Pershing 2 and Cruise [missi]les in Germany.

[Th]e campaign coordinating commit[tee h]as rented a shop in Rheindorf, only [a few] miles from the corridors of power [wher]e government officials are worry[ing t]hat the campaigners may be cook[ing u]p.

[Th]e change in outward appearance [coul]d hardly be more striking. There is [a blu]e and white statue of the Virgin [set] in one wall of the building where [the c]ampaign premises are.

[T]here she stands, her hands quietly [folde]d in prayer. Alongside her posters [procl]aim in bold colours their protest [agai]nst missile modernisation.

[N]o to the Pershing 2 and Cruise missiles and yes to a plebiscite on the issue [is th]e message they spell out in block [capi]tals.

[Th]e office is sparingly equipped and [has] a look of spontaneous disorderli[ness] that is typical of the alternative [mov]ement.

[Bu]t campaign headquarters staff, [wh]o are mostly young people, leave litt[le d]oubt that it is going to be the start of [som]ething big.

[Th]is autumn, they say, there are [goin]g to be the biggest and most varied [pea]ce campaign activities in the history [of] the Federal Republic of Germany.

[Th]ey may well be right. The coordi[natin]g committee is the most widely[-base]d body the West German peace [mov]ement has so far succeeded in sett[ing u]p.

[I]t represents 26 organisations and [grou]ps with widely varying political tar[gets.]

[B]y no means all of them are aimed [full]y at the objectives of the peace mo[vem]ent, but all are very much in favour [of o]pposing the new missiles.

[Th]ey include the BBU, or Federal [Ass]ociation of Environmental Civic In[itiat]ive Groups, the Greens, the Young [Dem]ocrats, the Young Socialists, the [Soc]ialist Youth and the DGB, or trade [unio]n, youth movement.

[T]hen there is the *Aktion Sühnezei[chen]*, the Church Grass Roots Move[men]t, the Protestant Students, conscien[tious] objector's groups and the Com[mitt]ee for Peace, Disarmament and [Co]operation.

[T]here are groups such as Women for [Pea]ce, the Federation of Non-Violent [Act]ion Groups, the Committee for [Bas]ic Rights and Democracy and the [Fed]eral Congress of Development Poli[cy] Action Groups.

[I]f the list of constituent organisations [is an]y guide there is little to indicate [tha]t the coordinating committee is a [Co]mmunist front, as the Bonn Interior [Min]istry or the *Verfassungsschutz*, or [dom]estic counter-espionage agency, in [Col]ogne at times broadly hints.

"If you ask me what influence the [Co]mmunists have," says Jo Leinen, [spo]kesman for the BBU and a member [of t]he coordinating committee, "then all [I ca]n say is that it is two twenty-sixths."

[T]his is a reference to the Committee [for] Peace, Disarmament and Coopera[tio]n and the conscientious objectors' or[gan]isation. Both helped to launch the [K]refeld Appeal, an anti-missile peti[ti]on. Both are pro-Communist.

"We have never denied for a moment that there are Communists among our supporters," says Leinen. "But we would be quite happy to welcome Christian Democrats, too."

Besides, the peace movement was no longer very worried about Communist infiltration after experience gained at the October 1981 and June 1982 peace rallies in Bonn.

The rallies were so successful that the non-Communist groups feel confident enough not to attach too much importance to allegations that they are Communist-infiltrated or the peace movement is communist-run.

The steering committee of the campaign organisation consists of representatives of *Aktion Sühnezeichen*, the BBU, the National Union of Students, the Federal Congress of Development Policy Action Groups and Women for Peace.

The sixth member of the steering committee may be the pro-Communist conscientious objectors' group but they are unlikely to make much headway against the other five.

The coordinating committee is concentrating mainly on a campaign week from 15 to 22 October on which a Cologne conference decided last April.

Communist groups said at the conference that they felt mass rallies were the most effective form of protest, but they were unable to prevail over those who favoured imaginative non-violent activities all over the country.

The schedule they finally agreed on provides for five "days of resistance" in October that are to be discussed and coordinated with various professional and social groups and lobbies.

Civil disobedience activities are to culminate in four large-scale peace rallies to be held in Hamburg, Bonn, Stuttgart and West Berlin.

The week will get off to a decentralised start on the Saturday, with Sunday being earmarked as a day for activities by Christians and other religious communities.

Peace is envisaged as the central issue to be dealt with at all church services.

Monday, 17 October, will be women's day, with chains of women forming round ordnance factories and military installations.

Tuesday is billed as the day of anti-militarism and international security. The activities planned include burning of draft cards and leafleting in front of barracks.

There will also be collections for Central America and debates with migrant workers.

Wednesday will be the day of workers, factories, farmers and social institutions. Franz Steinkühler, the Stuttgart regional leader of IG Metall, the iron, steel and engineering workers' union, has suggested a 15-minute token stoppage in factories all over the country.

The trades union confederation has been quick to rule out the idea. It sees it as an illegal political strike.

But as the trade unions are keen to take part in the campaign week the last word has probably not yet been said on the subject.

Thursday is to be schools and universities day. Lessons and lectures are to be scrapped and debates on problems of armaments and peace held instead.

Friday as the day of parliaments and Ministries is envisaged as a day on which the campaign to set up nuclear-free zones is to be publicised.

There are also plans to held special sessions of parliamentary bodies of one kind and another.

A variety of activities will be held in connection with the four mass rallies. In Bonn, for instance, a human chain is to be formed round the government area.

Demonstrators will converged on the embassies of the nuclear powers America, Russia, Britain, France, India and China.

There will be a "plebiscite" as part of which people are called on to hang the peace movement's symbols on walls and in windows.

Meetings and plaform debates will be held all over the city, with reports given by local and regional peace groups, followed by the mass rally in the Hofgarten,

With such a wide range of activities planned, the coordinating committee, which is keen to point out that its works is financed by donations and not by funds provided by Mr Andropov, aims to register the entire city as the location of its demonstration.

The rally will be held in the pedestrian precinct, the Hofgarten and Poppelsdorfer Allee.

In Hamburg the rally is to converge from meeting points in various parts of the city on the Rathaus and the port.

A human chain 108 kilometres long is to be formed between Stuttgart and Neu-Ulm. Blockade activities are planned in West Berlin.

The peace movement has great expectations of the imagination individual groups are to put to use and the numbers of people who are likely to take part.

The Bonn head office says cautiously that more than the 300,000 people who attended the last Bonn rally are expected to take part in peace movement activities this October.



Jo Leinen ... aggression is not politics. (Photo: Sven Simon)

Jo Leinen is more forthright. "We are already thinking in terms of a million," he says.

Activities will not be limited to the one week. Many other moves are planned beforehand. Peace camps are being held all over the country for training in non-violent resistance.

A US military installation in Swabia is to be blockaded in September by demonstrators including leading writers, such as Heinrich Böll and Günter Grass, Social Democrats such as Brhard Eppler and Oskar Lafontaine, and all 28 Green MPs in Bonn.

Later next month Artists for Peace are to hold open-air concerts in Hamburg featuring a host of well-known bands and stars such as Udo Lindenberg, Franz-Josef Degenhardt and Wolf Biermann.

There can be little doubt that the peace movement will be more active than ever before in the months to come. But will there be the much-vaunted hot autumn?

Jo Leinen takes a dim view of "talk of violence" that plays a part in fostering bitterness and hard feelings on both sides.

He is still hopeful of results from a discussion to be held at the Protestant Church Academy in Loccum, near Hanover, between politicians, leading police officers and representatives of peace movement.

He hopes this gathering, which is to be held early in September, will end all risks of polarisation between the peace movement and the police.

Misgivings and reservations about the gathering may still be voiced on all sides, but Leinen feels it is important as a means of ensuring that aggresion is not mistaken for politics.

But it will still be a political tightrope walk, as Social Democrat Leinen is well aware after the clashes between police and demonstrators in Krefeld last month.

He realises that if violence is taken to excess the credibility of the peace movement will be at stake.

"We must prepare our activities so well that violence cannot occur," he says. "We will have nothing to do with people who espouse violence. Non-violence is the only way to go about it."

The non-violent success of the 1981 and 1982 peace rallies is in his view an example of the way activities shoud be arranged.

But can confrontation be ruled out entirely? "The peace movement," Leinen says, "is not a peace police."

Heinz Verfürth

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 August 1983)

Continued from page 4

tion whether one can threaten with something whose use could never be morally tolerated.

The Americans, who reject the first use of nuclear weapons and nuclear war while not rejecting deterrence, have also not been able to solve this dilemma. But much of their paper is devoted to strategic discussions, arms assessment and concepts of warfare.

Both peace messages quote a Vatican Council statement to the effect that Christians can arrive at differing conclusions on certain points.

The Americans say that their paper is consistent with binding church views and prudential judgments at which they have arrived in their capacity as bishops and with which individuals could well differ. But they do not make it easy for the reader to judge for himself.

There is, however, one statement in both papers that is not open to interpretation: Deterrence is a makeshift solution — other concepts are sorely needed — and Christians must be the first to keep saying this loud and clear, to both the East and the West.

Christine Zauzich

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 5 August 1983)

■ FINANCE

Inflexibility blamed for East Bloc's economic crisis

One of the reasons for economic crisis in the East Bloc is that the system is not able to make fundamental reforms. Neither is it able to work out a strategy to cope, says Professor Seiffert.

That sets the tone for the book. He offers not a glimmer of hope for the East Bloc economies. Nor for the people affected by them.

He says the reforms are needed to change the inefficiency of the central planning system and to create a flexibility able to deal with variations in world market conditions.

A Kiel university professor, Seiffert is more familiar than most Westerners with the ideas, plans, hopes and problems in Comecon's executive suites.

He was a legal adviser to Comecon from 1969 to 1977 and met many of its top brass. As a frequent visitor to Comecon headquarters is Moscow, he had plenty of opportunity to discuss their problems.

His years in Moscow also gave him a first hand view of the limitations of the organisation and the roots of its crisis.

He has pondered the problem as to whether the East Bloc can escape the economic crisis that is clearly looming and that is bound to have its impact on the West as well.

His answer to the question raised in the title of his book is that optimism is unwarranted.

Far from just presenting a report on Comecon, the author provides much background material and analyses based on extensive personal experience. All this has resulted in sound advice on how the West should respond to the crisis.

He rejects the idea that the West should accelerate the destabilisation of the East Bloc because this would not hasten but prolong the decline.

But he warns against economic and financial aid without strings attached, i.e, without any control over what happens with it and without insistence that measures to put the economy back on its feet be introduced.

Professor Seiffert rejects the Western theory that Soviet-type political systems must be kept stable and the ruling parties strengthened.

Such a policy, he says, can only lead to political systems dictated by the Communist Party.

He shocks the reader with his call on the West to operate on the assumption that the "basic conflict of the two systems is irreconcilable."

The author stresses, however, that maintaining one's own position does not mean "forgoing a change in the general political and social status quo."

As he sees it, the West's policy towards the Comecon states must strive to bring about such a change with peaceful means and within the framework of international law. The general direction of the drive must be "towards a lasting peace in Europe by progressing beyond detente as a mere containment of the basic conflict."

Professor Seiffert: "This also includes overcoming the division of Germany."

His opening chapter, entitled "A West German in Comecon," reads like a thriller.

He describes the establishment of Comecon as "Stalin's answer to the Marshall Plan" and revealing surprising background information on the invasion of Czechoslovakia (in his chapter "Brezhnev's response to Dubcek's attempts at reform").

Wolfgang Seiffert, *Kann der Ostblock überleben? Der Comecon und die Krise des Sozialistischen Wirtschaftssystems* (Can the East Bloc survive? Comecon and the Crisis of the Socialist Economic System), Gustav Lübbe Verlag, Bergisch Gladbach, 284pp, DM34.

The author, who took part in many Comecon conferences, describes how the organisation operates, the way in which its members can influence it and even the role of the "Germans in Comecon."

But the essence of his book are the analyses of the causes of the economic crisis in the East and the practical effects of ideology within the system.

He sees the root of the troubles in the "inefficiency of the central planning system that would need fundamental reforms to bring about and lastingly ensure prosperity and be able to flexibly cope with impulses and setbacks resulting from world market conditions."

An absolute must if the crisis is to be overcome is to introduce reforms that would change the system, he says.

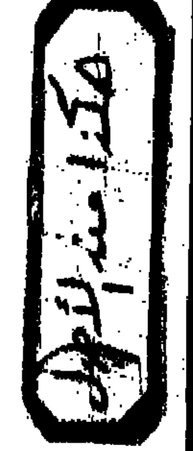
Professor Seiffert puts his finger on the core of the problem: "The system's inability to introduce fundamental reforms is one of the reasons for the crisis and the lack of a strategy with which to overcome it."

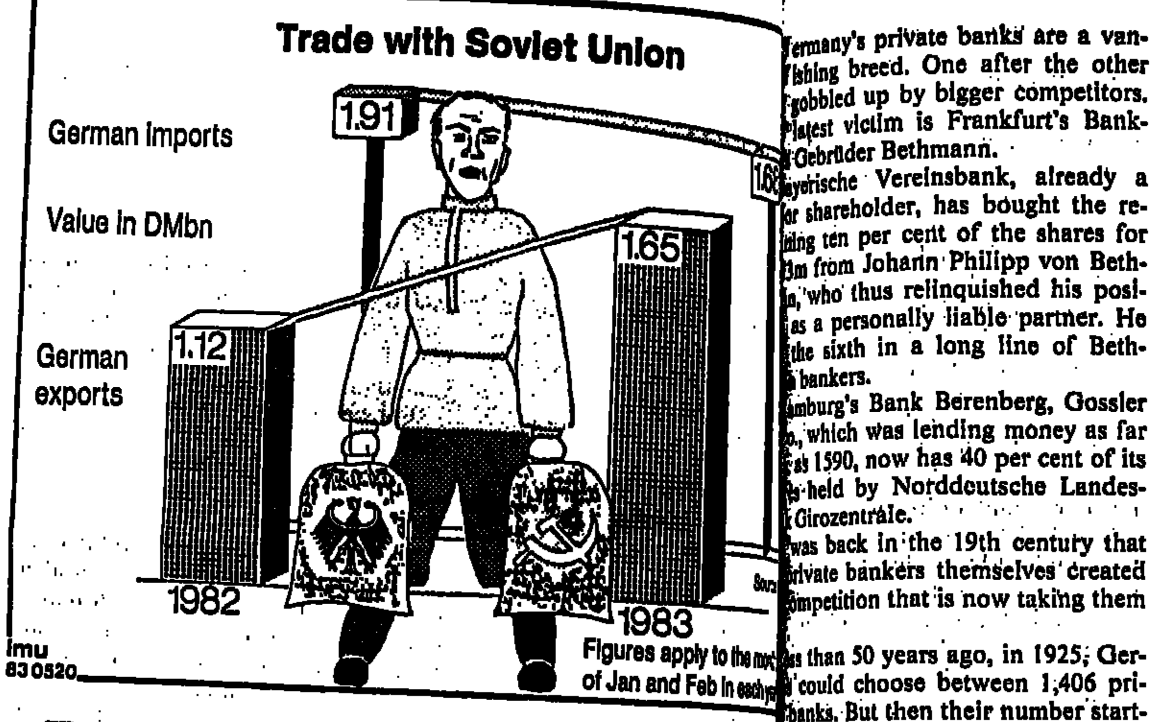
Incidentally, doubts as to the viability of the socialist economic system have been voiced inthe GDR with different degrees of clarity for years, among others by Professor Fritz Behrens.

A member of the Academy of Science in East Berlin, Behrens was rumoured to be the "actual father of the new economic system" which seemed promising but was dropped by Erich Honecker.

As far back as 1966, Professor Behrens wrote: "In view of the rising level of production and a growing variety of needs, the effectiveness of centrally controlled administrative methods is no longer sufficient. More effectiveness should now be achieved by a meaningful blend of central and decentralised management . . ."

Continued on page 7





Figures apply to the mo[...] of Jan and Feb in each y[...]

Raw materials for equipment k[...] to booming trade with Soviet[...]

Germany's trade with the Soviet Union is growing fast despite heavy restrictions on political grounds.

The volume of exports has grown so much over the years that it now totals half as much again as the Saudi Arabian total and is nearly half the amount sent to the USA.

Other nations are also increasing trade with the Russians. Japan now exports more than Germany.

This all indicates that the Soviet Union is trying to modernise its own industry by stepping up imports from the West.

The gas-pipeline deal with Western Europe is only one example. The Russians have shown more interest in a wide range of manufactured goods.

This new era of expansion is an opportunity for German industry, which has an excellent reputation in the Soviet Union. Political considerations are the main handicap.

The Soviet Union has something that Germany doesn't have: raw materials. It has more than anybody else, while the Federal Republic is the world's third largest buyer of them.

The Soviet Union also needs what Germany makes: industrial plant and machinery. It has the equipment the Russians need to exploit their huge supply of natural resources.

There is yet another reason why the Soviet Union is an ideal trading partner. Unlike other growing ma[...] as Latin America and Asia, [...] has no financing problems. On [...]trary. Its assets at foreign ba[...] growing and its foreign debt [...]ped to less than DM2.5bn in [...] five years.

As a result, few other marke[...] able to absorb as much as the [...] Soviet Union in the immedia[...] especially in view of the earni[...] the gas deal that will start com[...] the mid-1980s.

Moscow has made it quite cl[...] it intends using that money to [...]nise its industry.

This makes such major Sov[...] jects as coal liquefaction, chem[...]tories and the modernisation [...] transport system quite feasible.

The Kremlin has reaffirmed [...]tion to give most of these orders [...]man companies because previ[...]jects have been handled to the [...]tion of both sides.

Germany's industry is partic[...]terested in such orders becaus[...] the production capacity.

It is not surprising that Germ[...]dustrial managers and banker[...]tive in Moscow.

The main threat to this promi[...]velopment is political. But this [...] main obstacle is not America's [...]tions about a transfer of technolo[...]

The Soviet leadership has [...] quite clear intalks with Bonn Eco[...] Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorf[...] German order books will only [...] if the Geneva missile talks are [...]ful.

But past experience has rep[...] shown Germany's trade with the [...] Bloc to be amazingly robust [...] comes to political influences. It ha[...]cessfully weathered both the col[...] and a series of embargos.

Even though the missiles [...] more serious than previous crise[...] is no reason for German indu[...] throw in the towel. It should hold [...]naciously.

This would not only benefit [...] It would also help maintain co[...] after a possible breakdown of the [...] talks and help subsequent relation[...]

There is nothing to indicate th[...] Soviet Union thinks differently on [...] issue — even if it talks differently.

Hans Georg L[...]

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 26 M[...])

■ BUSINESS

Ledger domain: vanishing trick of the private bank

[G]ermany's private banks are a vanishing breed. One after the other [is] gobbled up by bigger competitors. [The] latest victim is Frankfurt's Bank[haus] Gebrüder Bethmann.

[Ba]yerische Vereinsbank, already a [maj]or shareholder, has bought the re[main]ing ten per cent of the shares for [...]m from Johann Philipp von Beth[man]n, who thus relinquished his posi[tion] as a personally liable partner. He [is] the sixth in a long line of Beth[man]n bankers.

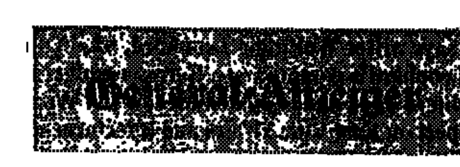
[H]amburg's Bank Berenberg, Gossler [& C]o., which was lending money as far [back] as 1590, now has 40 per cent of its [share]s held by Norddeutsche Landes[bank] Girozentrale.

[It] was back in the 19th century that [p]rivate bankers themselves created [the c]ompetition that is now taking them [...]

[Le]ss than 50 years ago, in 1925, Ger[many] could choose between 1,406 pri[vate] banks. But then their number start[ed] declining: to 915 in 1935 and 233 in [...]

[In] 1974, Cologne's Herstatt Bank, [Ger]many's largest private bank, col[laps]ed. This led to a loss of confidence. [Cus]tomers flocked to the major banks. [...]y 81 private banks survived.

[D]etermined to prevent a repeat of the [Hers]tatt affair, the small banks established a special fund to safeguard their depositors' money. And then came the regulation requiring banks to raise their capital to DM6m, more money than many could lay their hands on. And more went out of business.



Some of Hamburg's private banks that had traditionally specialised in foreign trade financing found that they could no longer compete when oil prices exploded. Their assets were not enough to finance even one-tanker loads.

This is how the Hamburg bank, Marcard & Co., was taken over by the French Banque Indosuez which has held 83 per cent of the shares since 1982.

So exclusive are some of the private banks that many people wanting to open accounts are politely told to go to the savings bank around the corner.

The private bankers are only interested in top customers. They leave the personnel-intensive mass business to the big banks.

Some, like Conrad Hinrich Donner, now 68 per cent owned by Vereins- und Westbank, are meantime prepared to make an exception.

This does not apply to Schröder, Münchmeyer, Hengst & Co. (SMH) of Frankfurt, Hamburg and Offenbach. The minimum deposit there is DM500,000.

But the customer is pampered. Highly skilled portfolio managers look after the money needs of the chosen few. For example, 100 of SMH's 349 staff members are securities analysts and portfolio managers.

According to Hamburg's private bankers, a customer can get his portfolio manager out of bed at 2 a.m. when he stands a good chance of getting not only a sound investment tip but also a drink to go with it.

It is not only wealthy individuals but major industrial corporations as well that like to use private banks for their more "delicate" deals.

Berenberg, Gossler & Co. has businesses, the City of Hamburg, publishing houses, shipyards and oil companies among its customers.

Securities account for half of the private banks' earnings at best. The rest is accounted for by short-term loans.

Take Berenberg, Gossler & Co. Here the ratio of earnings is 46 per cent interest and 54 commission.

Though undisclosed, experts estimate the interest margin to range between two and 3.5 per cent. The Bethmann Bank puts its margin at 2.1 per cent.

What gives the private bankers their edge over their big counterparts is their flexibility and on-the-spot decisions.

To achieve a balance of DM65bn, a major bank must have a payroll of 20,000 while the small banks achieve balances of more than DM1bn with only 300 or 400 employees; and the boss makes a point of personally advising every customer.

Joachim Wetzel, a partner in Berenberg, Gossler & Co,: "Banking is no fun if you don't know every customer. And if you're to know every customer you must limit your volume of business."

As Hans-Dieter Sandweg, a personally liable partner in Warburg, Brinckmann, Wirtz & Co., sees it, "there is no need for constantly growing balances."

The same limitation of growth applies to the branch offices of private banks. Between 1968 and 1973, the number of branches grew by 44 to 322. Now, they are down to 259.

The exception to this rule is the Schmidtbank in Hof with its 90 branches in Franconia and Eastern Bavaria where this bank has assumed the role of a purely regional institution.

With its staff of 959 and a balance of DM1.7bn (1982), the family-owned Schmidtbank numbers among this country's ten largest private banks.

Many private banks are in the process of change. At Marcard & Co., the 82-year-old partner Enno von Marcard still enters his office punctually at 8.30 a.m. But the secretaries are confused by the many new and still unfamiliar names.

Dieter Witt of Banque Indosuez has been the chief executive since November 1982, and in January 1983 the bank's capital was raised from DM18m to DM50m. The staff was boosted.

"We want to remain what we have always been: a private bank," says von Marcard. He and the staff mean exactly this; but the customers no longer take Marcard & Co. seriously as a private bank.

For its mass business, the Marcard Bank has acquired a 66 per cent stake in Fischer & Co., Hamburg, a private bank with a balance of DM448m (1982).

Here, customers are coddled whatever the size of their deposits. They appreciate this and do not run to a big bank for a fraction of a percentage point, says von Marcard.

Wetzel of Berenberg, Gossler & Co. offers his customers a once-a-year golfing spree: "I don't like to miss out on a deal, but golf is a passion with me."

Iwan Herstatt (of the now defunct Herstatt Bank) is said to have been a wizard at drumming up business. He never went anywhere without a batch of account opening forms. He was a great believer in word-of-mouth advertising, and it seems to have worked splendidly with him.

The most successful of Germany's private banks is Sal. Oppenheim & Cie (founded in 1789) of Cologne and Frankfurt. Its 1982 balance was DM10.2 bn (payroll 673). This puts this private bank among Germany's 50 largest, followed by Trinkhaus & Burkardt (DM5.1bn and a payroll of 645). Since 1980, Britain's Midland Bank has had a 66.6 per cent stake in Trinkhaus & Burkardt.

Among the other large private banks are SMH (DM3.4bn and 349 employees) and Warburg, Brinckmann, Wirtz & Co. (DM2.3bn, payroll 418).

"Prospects for private banks have never been as good as now," comments Joachim Wetzel. And indeed the private bankers look to the future with optimism.

They pin their hopes on their personalised counselling for each branch of business, estate management and letters of credit.

The private banks are in an excellent position to handle foreign deals through correspondent banks abroad. Financial deals can be wrapped up within a matter of hours.

Comments the spokesman of one of the mammoth banks: "There will and there should always be private banks. They're simply part of our banking landscape."

And it is not only the big banks that are investing in the future.

Since the beginning of this year, a computer company has been tinkering with a special computer programme for private banks at Berenberg, Gossler & Co.

Marlene Röder

(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 28 July 1983)

Continued from page 6

[I]n dealing with the significance of [ide]ology, Professor Seiffert deplores [We]stern contentions that speak of an [alle]ged "end of the ideological era."

"A wrong assessment of ideology's [...] programmes the failure of both a [con]cept to reform these systems and [an]y political strategy for East-West re[lati]ons," he writes.

[He] mercilessly describes the failure [of i]deology in everyday life, saying: "[Ide]ology makes the people in socialist [syst]ems experience the conflict between [ide]ological theory and day-to-day prac[tice]. Dozens of Marxist-Leninist ideo[logu]es have long lost their credibility — [in t]heory and in practical life."

[W]olfgang Seiffert thus fully confirms [...], after many years of research in [the] GDR, *Kieler Nachrichten* wrote in [...]

[W]hat does remain open is the ques[tion] as to how long an ideology can re[main] a meaningful part of a system in [whi]ch the people have rejected this [ide]ology as fit only for the wastepaper [bas]ket.

[P]rofessor Seiffert should delve into [this] question and perhaps answer it in [the] inevitable second printing of his [boo]k.

Axel Ostrowski

(Kieler Nachrichten, 6 August 1983)

■ PERSPECTIVE

Soviet line gives cause for neither hope nor fear

The West must stand up to the Soviet Union, says writer Wolfgang Leonhard, 62, in an interview with Herbert Kremp of *Die Welt*. Leonhard's parents were German emigrés. He grew up in the Soviet Union, came to Berlin in 1945 and sought refuge in the West in 1950. He is an internationally renowned expert on East Bloc affairs and a lecturer at Yale University in New Haven, Conn.

Question: The Soviet Union has threatened counter-measures of various kinds if missile modernisation goes ahead according to schedule should the Geneva INF talks break down and Pershing 2 missiles are stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany. What do you think the Russians will actually do?

Answer: The Geneva talks aren't over yet. I expect the Soviet leaders to give way in return for minor concessions, probably just before the final deadline.

The Soviet leaders will be hoping to enlist the support of a part of Western public opinion for a postponement of missile modernisation by Nato and a delay in the stationing of new weapons, especially Pershing 2s.

Any delay is to the Soviet leaders' advantage. *It will foster uncertainty and* would be the first climb-down by the West in implementation of the Nato dual-track decision.

If missile modernisation goes ahead in the wake of a total breakdown at the Geneva talks I should expect there to be a nerve-racking propaganda campaign and possibly a number of mainly demonstrative military counter-measures.

The purpose of these counter-measures would for the most part to heighten the psychologico-political pressure.

Yet no matter how bitterly the Soviet leaders may complain about moves by the West they will take good care not to overstep the mark.

First, because the Russians are keen to continue and expand economic relations with the Federal Republic, especially in the technological sector.

Second, because their current relations with the United States, Britain and France are, to put it cautiously, a little only the chilly side, while the process of normalisation envisaged in ties with China has run into difficulties.

This being so, it is unlikely to be in *the Soviet leaders' interest to overstrain* relations with the Federal Republic of Germany.

If they were to do so the result might be that Moscow would find itself increasingly isolated in its external affairs.

Q: Is Mr Andropov firmly in power or is his position in any way uncertain, be it for health or political reasons?

A: There are many indications that Mr Andropov is only a transitional leader, although initially he seems as Mr Brezhnev's successor to have been given all power and authority.

He has been general secretary of the CPSU since November 1982, chairman of the Defence Council since May 1983 and chairman of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet, or head of state, since June 1983.

At present there can be no doubt that he is No. 1, but his fairly advanced age makes it seem doubtful whether he can hold on to this position for any length of time,

When Stalin took over as general secretary in the spring of 1922 he was 43. When Khrushchev became Party leader in 1953 he was 59. When Brezhnev took over in October 1964 he was 58.

Mr Andropov took over as leader at the age of 68, and in the Soviet leadership a general secretary needs several years in which to consolidate his power. It takes at least until the next Party Congress.

The 27th CPSU Congress is due to be held in the spring of 1986. By then Mr Andropov will 72.

It is not just a matter of his term of office. Even more far-reaching changes at the top are due before long. Mr Andropov's closest associates are all well into their 70s.

Premier Nikolai Tikhonov is 78, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko is 74 and Defence Minister Dimitri Ustinov will be 75 in October.

So it cannot be long before new men will have to take over key posts in the Soviet leadership, and that will be no easy task.

Initial preparations seem already to be in progress. A troika of younger men appear to be coming to the fore, although they are still overshadowed by the older leaders.

They are Nikolai Romanov, 60, from Leningrad, who seems to be mainly responsible for industry and economic affairs; First Deputy Premier Gaidar Aliyev, 60, from Azerbaidjan, who is mainly responsible for home affairs; and Mikhuil Gorbatchov, 52, who is responsible for agriculture in the politbureau and the central committee secretariat.

If they take over in succession to the older generation of Kremlin leaders they will be the first Soviet leaders who did not learn the ropes under Stalin; all three have made their way to the top since Stalin's death in March 1953.

A new generation would at long last have taken over in the Kremlin. Only then will we be able to tell whether a change of manpower at the top is enough to enable the Soviet Union to embark on modernisation worth mentioning and on urgently needed reforms. But that remains to be seen.

Q: Have there been domestic and foreign policy changes in the Soviet Union since Mr Brezhnev's death that might be termed structural or likely to have any future effect?

A: No. Changes have been limited to differences in emphasis as regards method, not content. Mr Andropov's speeches are in part more attuned to reality.

At times he refers more openly to shortages. A campaign against corruption was conducted for a while (but has now been scrapped).

Another striking point is that Mr Andropov has placed slightly greater emphasis than in the past on the rights of non-Russian nationalities.

In the economic sector a number of what are officially termed experiments are being undertaken, albei[t] and to no more than a limit[ed] ...

The limitations are appar[ent] ... fact that even the concept ... still not permitted in the Sov[iet] ...

There has been no easing ... on Soviet civil rights camp[aigners] ... democrats (who in the West ... what unclearly, and in part ... ly, known as dissidents). ... sure on them has intensified.

Soviet foreign policy has ... unchanged, maintaining con[tinuity] ... the Brezhnev era.

The campaign against the ... track decision has been con[tinued] ... forts to improve ties with Ch[ina] ... nue to encounter difficulties.

The Soviet leaders are as ... were under Mr Brezhnev to ... right to a say in the Middle ... use their influence more mark[edly] ...

Q: What conclusions do y[ou draw] from your analysis for the ... the Bonn government and for ... must coordinate with the West ...

A: Let me first make a ge[neral re]mark. Frequent mention is ma[de these] days, and more is the pity, of ... superpowers as though the ... East and West were on a par ... other.

It is a matter of the qualit[ative diffe]rence between democracy a[nd human] rights on the one hand and a ... system with drastically limi[ted] rights on the other.

My aim is not to make this ... tion by way of an accusation, ... u sober assessment.

The difference between de[mocracy] and dictatorship is a factor in ... ties that has a long-term effect ... in the long run will probably ... important than the number of ... riety of missile or another.

But as for the immediate pres[ent, cur]rent Soviet policy gives Bonn ... lies neither cause for hopes ... sions nor reason for fear, ... panic.

It is encouraging to note that ... of euphoric detente has come ... without a reversion to cold ... Federal Republic has embarked ... phase of sober and realistic ... with the Soviet Union.

The aims are clear. We must ... the Atlantic alliance and the Na[to dual-]track decision while at the same ... sising Bonn's renunciation of the ... force and serious readiness not ... ties with Moscow to break down.

Opportunities of meeting Sov[iet lea]ders must be used but ought not ... sought at any cost. Negotiations ... with Soviet or other East Bloc ... should be conducted neither ... pressure of time nor with the ... that they must bring success.

Unilateral prior concessions ... avoided. Meeting the other side ... than half-way does not make ... tions easier, as is often believed; ... to growing mistrust on the part of ... Bloc officials.

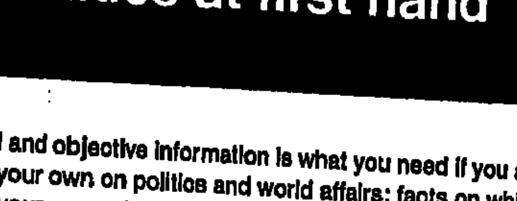
Greater reservation is advisable ... spect of credit commitments, wi[th care]ful consideration given to the ... both sides.

There must be no disregard ... problem of human rights. Andr[ei Sak]harov must not be forgotten.

The more clearly our own obj[ectives] are stated, the more consistently ... are fought for, the more exactly ... ments are framed and the more ... tely the verifiability of agree[ments] reached is laid down, the more ... ful negotiations will be and the ... and more lasting agreements will ...

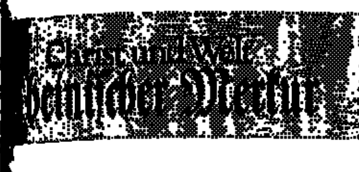
Herbert Kr[emp]

(Die Welt, 6 August ...)



AVIATION

Dornier's tried and trusted formula keeps it aloft



[The]re are no job worries at Dornier, [th]e last independent aero manufac[turer] in Germany, and a third of the ... work in research and development.

... balance sheet makes satisfying ...g. Turnover last year increased [from] DM1.23bn to DM1.574bn.

[Thi]s year it may decline to an estimated DM1.4bn, but no-one at Dornier [is wo]rried about the future.

[Th]e 8,600 staff in Bavaria and Baden-[Würt]temberg of what is still a family ... with a fine reputation, are not ...ted by fears of redundancy.

[Do]rnier has for decades been a step [ahea]d of the competition, which is basi[cal]ly why it is still in business when so [man]y others have gone to the wall.

[Th]e company has stayed independent [in a]n industry where mergers have left [Me]sserschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB) ...ally on its own.

[M]BB took over well-known companies such as Junkers and Heinkel, Alba[tros] (one of the oldest aircraft companies in the world), Focke and Henschel, ...hm, Wulf and Weser-Flugzeugbau.

[I]n their day they were all renowned [pio]neers of aviation, companies that [ma]de a major contribution to the indus[try a]s we now know it.

[Th]ose that survived the Second [Worl]d War are basically all divisions of [MB]B. Only Dornier steadfastly steered ... of cooperation and mergers and [take]-over bids.

[M]BB in Munich were very keen to [take] the company over. Bonn would [have] liked to see a merger. But Dornier [wou]ld hear nothing of the idea.

[M]r Bernhard Schmidt, one of the two [man]agers who have taken over from [Cla]udius Dornier jr, puts it like this:

[“W]e are still in business because we [are] insiders, because we are versatile [and] not determined to try our hands at [eve]rything.

[“W]e have survived because we have [suc]ceeded in setting up a system of ... information routes that allows us [to g]et moving fast and on a grand [sca]le.”

[T]he outlook is promising. The Dor[nier] group, with works in Munich, Frie[dri]chshafen, Lindau and Oberpfaffen[hof]en, near Munich, has held its own ...

[D]espite the international recession [and] the chill wind of competition Dor[nier] have retained a fair share of the [mar]ket.

[T]hey have kept up comprehensive re[sear]ch and development that has been [reso]undingly successful in safeguarding [com]pany jobs.

Dornier have also made a worldwide [na]me for themselves by delving into [ne]w technologies.

The company combines Swabian [po]wers of invention and thoroughness [an]d the spirit of German aviation pio[nee]rs as embodied by the founder, [Cla]ude Dornier, and his son Claudius.

To this day the combination has [st]ood Dornier in good stead, ensuring it [a] firm place in the European aerospace industry.

A figure that is extremely telling is the fact that roughly a third of Dornier's payroll work in research and development, a sector in which the company has always invested heavily. At one works alone, Immenstaad on Lake Constance, home of Dornier's development division, some 2,000 highly skilled engineers, technicians and designers are employed.

The Dornier group began as the Dornier aircraft division of the Zeppelin airship company but decided to go it alone in 1922.

It differs in many respects from what the general public expects an aerospace company to be like.

Its hallmarks have been the success of Dornier design engineers and sales staff with short and vertical take-off aircraft.

The Do 27 was the company's first post-war best seller: 650 were built and sold. It proved as useful in many Third World countries as it was in the early days of the Bundeswehr.

It was the first post-war German plane that was a commercial success. Technically it was a winner in any case.

The Do 27 was followed by the Skyservant, a versatile short take-off aircraft, and the latest model in the series, the Do 228.

Technically the Do 228 is the ultimate in commuter and multi-purpose aircraft. Dornier are confident it will earn money and keep staff in employment until well into the 1990s.

“We have repaid to the last pfennig the loans we were given by Bonn towards the cost of developing and constructing the Skyservant.

“We will be repaying the aid we have been lent in connection with the Do 228 too. That's how optimistic we are,” says Bernhard Schmidt.

These are words that are far from common in the aircraft industry these days.

There is a widespread prejudice that companies like Dornier are kept going mainly or even exclusively by military research, development and production contracts.

Taxpayer's money

In other words, they depend on the taxpayer's money. But that is only half the truth.

Military contracts may make up a substantial proportion of turnover, but the criticism implied misses the point and is factually mistaken.

In Dornier's case in particular the wide range of company activities in the civil aviation sector are much less known to the general public than military contracts.

Mention is mainly made, in this context, of the Alpha jet, a Franco-German fighter aircraft that has naturally played a large part in taking the company's aircraft construction turnover to DM534m per annum.

But the Alpha jet production lines will shut down for good in two years' time. More than 500 Alphas will by then have taken wing.

Dornier have lately taken on a new role as suppliers for the European A 310 Airbus, as subcontractors for the 217-seater version of the Airbus.

They are to be congratulated on having chosen to collaborate in the manufacture of the A 310 rather than the larger, 251-seater A 300. The smaller version is felt to be much more promising as a commercial proposition.

Incidentally, as a subcontractor Dornier does not have to shoulder any of the risk the Airbus project inevitably entails.

Turnover has undeniably increased steadily in the military sector, including missiles, torpedoes, reconnaissance devices and drones.

It has also increased in the space sector and, in particular, in new technology, of which the Do 228 commuter aircraft is the most advanced example.

Esa, the European Space Agency, has acknowledged Dornier's expertise in awarding the company leadership of the consortium that designed and built the ERS-1 terrestrial observation satellite.

Engineers from 13 countries were associated with the ERS project.

Dornier are also associated with the Giotto space probe that will be sent up to take a closer look at Halley's comet when it next passes through the solar system in 1986.

They are likewise associated with the Ariane launcher vehicle and the Spacelab project.

Dornier by no means regard the use of shock waves to break up kidney stones as a sideline. This is a sector in which they have earned a worldwide reputation.

A kidney stone crusher costs DM3m. Dornier also manufacture measurement and control equipment for environmental protection and have built textile machinery in Lindau since the 1940s.

Back in the aviation field, Dornier have been entrusted by Boeing with fitting out 18 Awacs reconnaissance planes as part of a Nato programme.

The emphasis nonetheless remains on middle-of-the-road aircraft construction.

Over the post-war decades Dornier have manufactured over 1,000 short take-off planes of all kinds that have proved satisfactory in use all over the world.

They are banking on this fund of experience in launching the DM4m Do 228 in competition with US manufacturers, Britain, Canada and Brazil.

The Soviet Union manufactures similar aircraft but they are not serious competitors with their Western counterparts because they are gas-guzzlers.

That makes them far too expensive to run to Western markets and for Third World countries.

Market research experts estimate that in the next 12 years there will be a demand for about 3,500 turboprop aircraft in the Do 228 category.

Dornier would like to make sure of a large slice of the cake: at least 450, including 300 by the end of the present decade.

Looking at USA

The DO 228 has sold well of late: in Malaysia, Taiwan, Bhutan, Nigeria, Norway and Sweden, where the competition was neatly upstaged.

Sales figures seem to confirm that Dornier are heading in the right direction. Dornier sales executives hope even to gain a foothold in the US market.

The short-term target, to build and sell three Do 228s per month, has virtually been reached. The first 14 have already been handed over; 13 more are to follow before the year is out.

There are 18 orders in hand and 49 options, which is far from bad, especially as more orders seem likely to follow. The Do 228 certainly shows that Dornier have again been quick to size up the market.

For years there has been talk of a renaissance of small and medium-sized propeller aircraft. Dornier developed and build in next to no time turboprop aircraft capable of knocking spots off well-known US planes.

“It is part of the Dornier tradition,” Bernhard Schmidt says, “to try new approaches and steal a march on the others.

“But we aren't gamblers. We have carefully calculated the risk we are running. Our scientific staff and our experience guarantee that.”

With a glance at seemingly all-powerful competitors in Europe and overseas he adds: “We may be a medium-sized company but the so-called big boys are often not all that big.”

Knowledge is power, as Dornier have been well aware for over 60 years. Success bears out the attitude taken by the last independent operator in the German aerospace industry.

Karl Morgenstern

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 5 August 1983)



Claudius Dornier jnr . . . in the tradition of his father.

(Photo: Hella Wolff-Seybold)

■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Earth's temperature set to rise, and human beings will be to blame

Global mean temperature on the surface of the Earth will increase by about two degrees centigrade in the next 40 years, says Bonn climatologist Hermann Flohn.

Writing in *Geographische Rundschau* on the basis of what was known at the end of 1982, he says the estimated increase will be due to gases released into the atmosphere by virtue of human activities.

About seven tenths of a degree will be due to the higher carbon dioxide count in the atmosphere.

A further six tenths will be due to nitrogen fertiliser, the end-product of which is nitrous oxide, or laughing gas.

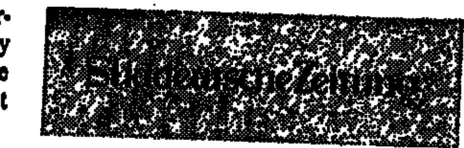
The third major factor will be a higher level of water evaporation, accounting for a temperature increase of 0.4 degrees.

Combustion of fossil fuels currently releases 5.3 gigatons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere annually, and the output is increasingly by 2.2 per cent per annum.

Destruction of the tropical rain forest at a rate of 160,000 square km per year adds a further two to four gigatons annually.

According to the most reliable estimates the atmosphere absorbs about 55 per cent of carbon dioxide and the seas the remaining 45 per cent.

The carbon dioxide count in the atmosphere has increased from 290 parts



per million in 1900 to over 340 parts per million at the beginning of this year.

It is currently increasing at a rate of 1.2 parts per million a year.

The less biomass there is, the less carbon from the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is absorbed by plants and the faster the carbon dioxide count increase.

In Central Europe, and arguably in North America, forest growth is steadily declining. It is certainly declining rapidly in German woods and forests.

The estimates do not take into account the increase in carbon dioxide that is likely to result from the demise of trees and forests.

The Bundestag commission of inquiry into future atomic energy policy reported in 1980 that experts were agreed an energy policy aimed at growth would have a specific effect.

Even if the emphasis were to be on promoting atomic energy the result would be a heavy consumption of fossile fuels.

Energy saving, especially electric power, is likely to have a positive effect on the carbon dioxide problem, Flohn claims.

This aspect was covered exhaustively by Wilfried Bach, of Münster, last year in a book entitled *Gefahr für unser Klima* (Danger for the Climate).

"We are burning up in 200 to 300 years the fossil fuels nature, in the shape of photosynthesis, took 400 million years to produce," Flohn writes.

What consequences will a mean temperature increase of two degrees by the year 2020 have?

In the early Middle Ages, about the year 1000, when the Vikings colonised southern Greenland, the entire region must have been ice-free.

In those days the mean annual temperature was one degree higher than it is today.

Deep-sea drilling has shown that about 120,000 years ago, in the interglacial period, the temperatures were warmer than at any time in the past 700,000 years.

In those days the mean annual temperature was two to two and a half degrees higher than it is today.

Lions, mastodons and hippos flourished in southern England. Their bones have also been found in gravel pits near Worms on the Rhine.

In those days the sea-level was five to seven metres higher than it is today. The seas extended to Siberia and linked the Arctic Ocean with the Baltic. Scandinavia and Finland were islands.

To judge the consequences of even greater increases in temperature we must go even further back in time.

Facts found in relation to climate history are in keeping to a surprising degree with the results of model estimates.

If there were a substantially higher carbon dioxide count and level of other toxins and mean temperatures were four degrees higher than today, conditions such as prevailed in the late tertiary period might recur.

In those days, between 14 and three and a half million years ago, the Antarctic was cevered by an icecap but the Arctic wasn't.

Salt and plaster deposits such as today occur in southern Tunisia accumulated in the Viennese basin and the plateau along the upper reaches of the Rhine.

Flohn says the arid zones could move 400 to 800 kilometres further north toward Central Europe.

The sub-tropical rain zone would become narrower and likewise head north. California, the Mediterranean and the Middle East would be totally drought-stricken.

Exact regional forecasts cannot be made because in the late tertiary period the mountain ranges did not, for the most part, yeat exist.

They now exercise a cricual influence on the climate. Besides, massive volcanic eruptions could cool the Earth down rather than heating it up further.

It looks as though the resurgence of volcanic activity since 1963 has ensured that the 0.5-degree temperature increase that might have been expected in view of exhaust fumes has not yet occurred.

Flohn stresses that all current forecasts must be seen in the light of what is strictly limited knowledge. There has yet to be a model capable of satisfactorily simulating the present-day climate with its seasonal variations.

Martin Urban

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 August 1983)

The remark… properties… the neem t…

The neem tree, an … member of the mahog… that grows widely in Africa … a range of unusual properties … it promising prospect for … countries.

Azadirachta indica is its … name. It is useful because its … fireproof and impervious to the … dations of termites and its lea… used as cattle fodder.

Agents refined from its seed … be harnessed to fight many pe… neem oil, although inedible, … used to lubricate engines and … soap.

The waste that is left over af… has been pressed out of the se… effective fertiliser that has a de… effect on pests.

Small wonder the neem tree … been the subject of internation… fic conferences held by Giessen … sity department of phytopatho… applied zoology and financed … Bonn government agency that … ses technical cooperation with … World.

Professor Heinz Schmutterer … in the Giessen University … what is so important about … table insecticides in developing … tries in particular.

According to extremely con… WHO estimates there are ab… fatalities a year in Third Wor… tries due to misuse of chemical … cides.

The number of less lethal … poisoning is probably substanti… er, and the level of environmen… lution is high too.

What small farmers in the … World particularly need is a … cide made simply and inexp… from plants that can be easily …

It must control as many pests … sible yet be harmless for hum… other warm-blooded animals.

It was shown in 1972 that th… tive agents in neem seed preven… from shedding their skin or imp… development in other ways.

Professor Schmutterer says … substances are effective in deal… locusts, caterpillars, beetle larv… cicadas, gnat young, threadwor… live on plant roots and pests th… riously ravage grain stores.

They have proved more effec… artificial substances in coping … cabbage moth and a West Afric… beetle.

He notes with amazement that … extract seems not only not to ha… natural enemies of rice and … pests; it can even enhance crop …

Fertiliser consisting of was… neem seed presings has been fo… the International Rice Research … in the Philippines to boost yield … to 1.3 tonnes per hectare.

This was partly due to the … substances temporarily decimating … number of ostracods that live in the … fields when they are under water.

The algae that these little cr… mally eat flourished accordingly … they died they produced enriched … gen that functioned as a fertiliser … rice plants.

Hans O…

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 7 Augu…)

LITERATURE

Cul-de-sac, Sackgasse, strada chiusa: exit out of translators' blind alley

…postcard addressed to Slawomir …Błaut, Dom Literaturow, near Kre… …Federal Republic of Germany, was …ected without difficulty by the …sorting office.

…"House of Literature," the Post …decided, must be the European …lators' College in Straelen, 35km …on the Dutch border.

…was. Straelen, the first institution of …nd in Europe, was opened in 1980. …clearly made a name for itself …r afield than Krefeld.

…nslators from many Western Eu…n countries felt it would be a good …to set up a centre of this kind when …s first suggested some years ago.

…anslators from the East Bloc coun… …could now hardly be keener to …time at Straelen, while links are …being forged with China and …n.

…sounds as though it were some… …gigantic, like the Bundessprachen… …in Cologne or the simultaneous …slation facilities of the European …mmunity in Brussels.

…ut Straelen is entirely different. It is …furbished six-room house, Mühlen…asse 10, not farm from the market …are.

…Half a dozen translators can live and …k at Straelen for a while. There is an …ple library and a common work …m. And that's it.

…he house is now far too small. A …building costing DM2m is under …struction. The college is run on an …ual budget of DM300,000.

Two thirds of the costs are met by …th Rhine-Westphalia, the remainder …Straelen and from donations.

Yet Straelen sounds more like a fami… …affair launched on the basis of pri… …initiative, as indeed it was.

It was set up on the initiative of …ntific and literary translators with a …w to coordinating activities and gain… …an opportunity of learning from one …other.

The idea of a European translators' …lege was born about 10 years ago at …Esslingen Talks, held in November …German translators.

Translators are the least-known cogs …he wheel of literature even though …ry other bestselling novel, one non-…ion bestseller in three and nine out …10 crime novels, science fiction tales, …ics and TV series are translations.

Yet in most cases no-one knows who …translator is. His name isn't mentioned.

Elmar Tophoven, the translator of …muel Beckett, Claude Simon and …ers into German, was the prime …ver and persistent campaigner.

He first thought in terms of the Tole… …School, a translators' college that …sted over 700 years ago. Why should …ch an institution only be possible in …Middle Ages?

So let us take a look at a normal …rking day at Mühlenstrasse 10 in …aelen, today. Klaus Birkenhauer is …eparing for the next weekend's activi…s.

He translates from English and has …so written several books of his own, …including one about Beckett.

A group of Dutch translators will be …conferring on a new project. Translation in teamwork is a welcome change from day-to-day work.

It has also achieved results, such as the publication of jointly translated books such as a selection of essays by Jean Cayrol.

One of the main aims of the college is to make the work of translation transparent and controllable, to show how a translation comes about and why one choice is made rather than another.

Another is to document work and to set up a library of translations, which is, incidentally, an idea dating back to Goethe.

When Goethe was sent the first translation of his Hermann and Dorothea into a foreign language he read it immediately and said it ought to be put alongside the original as being equal in quality.

Translators at Straelen have, for instance, checked each other's work. They reread Thomas Mann's Magic Mountain to see how the various translators coped with the more difficult passages.

The Magic Mountain is the tale of an individual illness and also that of illness as such and the collapse of an entire society.

At one point in the novel there is a reference to *der blaue Heinrich,* who is rendered by the French translator as *Henri le Bleu.*

The English translator was found to have gone one step better and referred to the Blue Peter. The verb "to peter" is clearly appropriate, while the Blue Peter as a flag is flown by ships that sail out to sea and may never return.

So the translation in this instance succeeded in underpinning the atmosphere of the original novel.

Elmar Tophoven is one of the most important contemporary translators into German, partly because he has spent years trying not only to present his own work but also to show how he has set about it.

His aim is to make the art of translation teachable. As the leading spirit of the college he is keen to set standards of translation ever higher.

"At present," he says, "the lessons to be learnt from a translation are learnt by young linguists who compare it with the original."

His idea is to supply a commentary on the translation as well as the translation itself. He feels 180 printed pages of book will produce about 1,400 translator's footnotes.

Many observations will relate only to the personal development of the translator, but points constantly arise that are of more general interest and could be incorporated in dictionaries.

These points, he says, should be collected and filed in an electronic German-English, German-French or German-Spanish dictionary.

Straelen already has a newly-installed computer capable of doing the donkey work.

If everything works, and it surely will, the translators' college is bound to emerge as a major venue for literary debate.

Translators read books very closely. When Tophoven was translating Beckett's Compagnie into German (and a commentary to go with it) he noticed how freely Beckett himself translated his work.

Beckett writes his original work in English and then translates it into French. The French version was very freely and imaginatively translated in certain sections.

Tophoven felt encouraged not to stick too closely to the literal text but to try and find German phrases that were more in keeping with what Beckett had to say.

The translators' next aim, he says, is to set up a round-the-clock telephone service.

If someone in Bavaria is translating a book from the Spanish and comes across a phrase he is not familiar with he will then be able to ring Straelen and ask.

In all probability Straelen will know the answer. Its reference library and dictionary section are so comprehensive that they are probably already better than most university libraries.

There is virtually day-by-day proof that the word has got around. Many of the problems with which foreign translators confront Straelen are problems that only German translators can readily solve.

A curly one

An American who was translating theoretical work by Friedrich Schiller, for instance, rang to ask why some passages were italicised.

He failed to see why. In his view there were so many much more important comments that were not in italics. What was the point?

His problem was soon solved. Italicised passages in Schiller's theoretical writings are not set in italics to emphasise their content.

The purpose is to emphasise pronunciation. When these words are accentuated, Schiller's will be seen to have been a Swabian accent.

That is a point that is unlikely to accur so readily to anyone who doesn't come from southern Germany. But Klaus Birkenhauer comes from down south and was able to offer a ready explanation.

Christian Linder

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 4 August 1983)

Books nestle happily where pigs and sheep once mucked around

The International Young People's Library has moved to new quarters on the outskirts of Munich, surrounded by small lakes in a neat and friendly landscape.

It spent over 30 years in Schwabing, in cramped city-centre accommodation. The library, which is the only one of its kind in the world, now has 10 times as much room.

It is housed in Schloss Blutenburg, a historic monument renovated for DM20m and fitted out with the latest in library facilities.

The 400,000 books in 120 languages are looked after by a fresh team of librarians in what used to be a ducal hunting lodge and moated castle.

The castle needed thorough restoration. It used to be a convent but was last used to house pigs and sheep by a local farmer.

So it is hardly surprising that the repairs took three years. The result is a library atmosphere with a difference.

Unter the historic arches of the main reading room young readers can browse through a permanent shelf stock of 10,000 children's and young people's books in 10 languages.

The 10 languages include Serbo-Croat and Japanese.

In the peace and quiet of towers and turrets that are reached via the courtyards students, teachers, librarians, publishers and research scholars can delve deeper.

They have access to the lending facility for international specialist literature comprising 10,000 volumes and 240 periodicals.

The library is a Unesco-associated project launched in 1948 by a Stuttgart woman, Jella Lepman.

Annual additions total 15,000 books, traditionally supplied free of charge by publishers all over the world.

Difficulties arise only when the countries concerned are poor, the customs authorities are strict and language barriers or paper shortages prevent prompt delivery.

The details are outlined by Lioba Betten, 34, the new deputy director, a Munich librarian.

There is a gigantic underground warehouse of books beneath the linden tree and the apple trees in the castle courtyard.

About 50,000 children's books of historic interest are kept in fireproof, waterproof quarters.

Over 300,000 volumes are stored in accordance with the latest techniques, including the four fifths of the 50,000 volumes of secondary literature that are not immediately available on demand.

The library was set up after the Second World War to promote peace and international understanding.

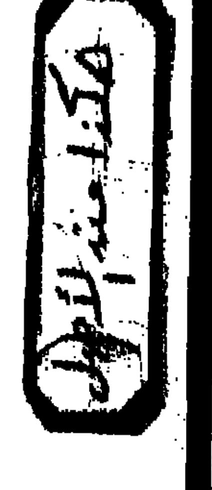
Frau Betten and her boss, Andreas Bode, 40, who comes from Leipzig, have yet to put in serious public relations work for their new home.

But there are already 300 applications by children and young people to borrow books. Films based on books are to be shown once a months; the first was Erich Kästner's *Konferenz der Tiere.*

There are also plans for language courses, exhibitions and readings.

dpa

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 5 August 1983)



MEDICINE

Treating spine complaints gets to root of other problems



Among the most common forms of complaint today are those which affect the body's system of controlling its movement. This involves the skeleton, the nerves and the muscles.

Most of the problems stem from the spinal column. Sixty per cent of women and 80 per cent of men over 50 have degenerative changes in the spine, according to Professor Herbert Junghanns, a pioneer in spinal research.

But he says that this degeneration alone does not always cause problems, especially if the muscle system surrounding the spine is strong enough to support it.

There could, however, be disorders of the complicated vertebrae system without symptoms.

The diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the muscular skeletal system is the specialised field of "manual medicine" or "chirotherapy".

Both terms are derived from the word "hand" (one in Latin, one in Greek). The reason for this is that functional changes of the skin, muscles and joints can usually only be discovered through a painstaking manual examination. Frequently, the complaint can be alleviated or cured through manipulation.

Chirotherapeutic manipulation has been in use for thousands of years. But until recently modern European medicine left this field to non-medical specialists, chiropractors.

In America, a variant of this manual medicine, osteopathy, has gained academic recognition, and the Doctor of Osteopathy degree equals a general medical degree. This was pointed out by Professor Friedrich Loew at the recent 7th Interdisciplinary Forum of the German Medical Association in Cologne.

Loew urged that this neglected medical discipline be given more emphasis in medical training in this country.

German chiropractors now receive their training in practical courses organised by the German Society for Manual Medicine in Neutrauchburg and Hamm. Only four German medical schools teach manual medicine.

Doctors who have passed several of these courses can become members of the Society and, following a final examination, add the word "Chirotherapy" to their nameplate.

Patients should know about this before they consult a chiropractor because manual medicine was with some reason looked at with suspicion for a long time.

Conventional medicine left chirotherapy to outsiders, primarily people without a medical degree who knew how to manipulate but frequently used this practice where it was not called for and could therefore be harmful.

Chiropractors today keep within their limitations, E. Schwarz, president of the Swiss Medical Society for Manual Medicine, told a German Medical Association Congress in Montecatini-Terme recently.

Even so, there were doctors who manipulated the spinal column without having the experience. They had simply learned a few grips and positions.

Many national health organisations provided lists of doctors qualified to carry out manual examinations and treatment.

But some of these lists, such as the one in Berlin, are compiled from information provided by national health doctors, criticised Berlin orthopaedic specialist Karl-Heinz Drogula, president of the German Society for Manual Medicine. They did not take into account whether the person listed was actually a trained chiropractor.

A chirotherapist with a sound knowledge of the necessary techniques who uses manipulation only where it is really called for can provide relief for a great many pain-ridden patients.

A Swiss survey of internists shows that about 30 per cent of their patients could profit from manual medicine. The percentage is likely to be even higher for general practitioners or orthopaedists, said Schwarz.

Disorders due to a blockage between vertebrae are particularly suitable for chirotherapeutic treatment.

This type of blockage, which is functional rather than anatomic, restricts a joint's normal scope of movement. Appropriate manipulation can restore this movement and rid the patient of pain.

In some cases, all complaints can be removed with a simple twist resulting in an audible click. A case in point is lumbago, a painful condition involving the lumbar muscles.

But such instant successes are the exception rather than the rule, Schwarz told the congress that manipulation or the softer technique of osteopathic mobilisation must be only part of a comprehensive individual therapy plan.

Dr Drogula also stressed the interplay of manual medicine and other therapeutic measures and warned against using chiropractics only. A surprisingly large number of disorders can be treated by manipulation provided this warning is heeded. Some types of headaches, dizziness, shoulder and arm pains and cricks in the neck are to disorders of the neck section of the spinal column. Pain that seems to radiate from the heart frequently originates in the chest section of the spinal column.

Hip pains need not necessarily come from disorders of the hip joint. They can also be due to problems with one of the lower vertebrae.

Lumbago and sciatica can also be treated by manual manipulation, though not always successfully.

Dr Drogula stressed that certain types of muscle pain in the spinal column region are not always due to blocked vertebrae but that the causality can also be reversed.

In such cases, it is useless to treat the blockage. What must be done is to treat the muscle instead.

It transpired time and [illegible] Montecatini congress that [illegible] of spinal column disorders [illegible] hand in hand with muscular [illegible] tion and a strengthening of the [illegible] corset" that supports the spine.

These insights are based on results of research into muscle [illegible] gy, especially the work of [illegible] Janda (Prague).

According to this research, [illegible] portant to prevent muscular [illegible] in patients with disorders of the [illegible] column and its vertebrae.

Systematic stretching of [illegible] muscles that have been shortened [illegible] result of inactivity and [illegible] strengthen muscles with a supp[illegible] well as a movement function [illegible] trick here.

As a result, it is not enough [illegible] cribe physical exercises. The [illegible] must tell the physiotherapist [illegible] cises to practice with the patient [illegible] must never discontinue these [illegible] if he is to stay well, Schwarz [illegible] meeting.

Complications as a result of [illegible] therapy occur primarily when the [illegible] apy has been applied where it [illegible] not have been used. For example [illegible] acute joint inflammations, [illegible] mours or organic diseases of the [illegible] column.

Jiri Dvorak, Berne, told the [illegible] congress that a survey showed [illegible] complications in an estimated [illegible] lion manipulations over the past [illegible] decades.

Even assuming a large number [illegible] reported complications, it seems [illegible] vious that manual medicine can [illegible] fective at a relatively low risk [illegible] also an economical type of medicine.

Dr Drogula pointed to the [illegible] ges of manual medicine over [illegible] with drugs: Manual therapy is [illegible] locally while a drug frequently [illegible] desirable side effects involving [illegible] whole of the human organism. He [illegible] ceded, however, that manual [illegible] also used medication.

R. S[illegible]

(Frankfurter Allgemeine [illegible] für Deutschland, 3 August [illegible])



Just the jab!

Five-language dog tags for diabetics are now available [illegible] glish, French, German, Italian and Spanish. They are [illegible] ed to explain the problem for holidaymakers in case [illegible] genoy in a foreign country. (Photo: [illegible])

Migraine study reveals links with stress and weather

Psychological problems and certain weather conditions often trigger migraine attacks, a survey of 3,000 sufferers has revealed.

More than half said that specific warning signs preceded attacks. They included trouble at work or home; stress caused by driving; changes in weather; and particular types of weather such as humidity.

Rarely was there any connection with allergic reactions.

Results of the survey were revealed at an international congress in Feldkirch, Austria.

Migraine (the word comes from the Latin term *hemicrania*, meaning half the head) owes its name to the fact that attacks usually begin on one side of the head; and with many people they remain one-sided.

The intense pain appears to be caused by a blood vessel spasm in the brain. Migraine is usually treated with pain killers and drugs to overcome the spasm.

But there is no effective treatment for the still unknown root of the problem. This prompted doctors to launch a survey involving 2,872 migraine sufferers, 80 per cent women.

Respondents carefully recorded their medical histories and noted anything they felt might have a bearing on their condition.

Fifty-six per cent had their first attack when they were young adults; 39 per cent in puberty. As a rule, children don't have migraine pains.

Thirty-six per cent said that their mothers and 10 per cent that their fathers also suffered from migraine.

This seems to prove that heredity plays an important role even though its influence was indicated in less than half of the cases.

In more than 80 per cent of the cases the attacks occur at home, mostly in the early morning or immediately on waking up. Few attacks occur during work. But more than half the sufferers must stop working during an attack (average duration 27 hours) and stay in bed in a darkened room.

Migraine is not only extremely painful but also costly to the economy because of lost working hours.

Gerhard Graf

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 6 August 1983)



[H]ORTICULTURE

[Ad]enauer, Schmidt, side by side in a rose garden

DIE ZEIT

[illegible]hing like Konrad Adenauer [woul]d still be just what many peo[ple] [illegible]. Add a few characteristics of Schmidt and there would pro[bably b]e an overwhelming majority in [illegible]

[Bu]t the politicians Adenauer and [illegible]. It is roses we are talking [about:] the deep red Konrad Adenauer [and the] yellow Helmut Schmidt.

[T]wo varieties could indeed be [illegible], and both were on show at the [nat]ional rose-growers' congress in Baden.

leaves, and the gracious way in which the solitary bloom withered and faded was felt to hold forth great promise.

Even so, fewer orders have been placed for Helmut Schmidt since his namesake was replaced as Bonn Chancellor by Helmut Kohl.

That may have been a reason why rose-breeders were none too upset that neither Herr Kohl nor President Carstens had accepted the invitation to attend the congress.

If either had, they would have been duty bound to name a new variety of rose after him, and who knows how long a politician's name will continue to mean good business?

Over 1,000 rose-lovers from 25 countries were in Baden-Baden, which boasts Germany's only garden exhibiting new varieties of rose, to award the medals.

Rose-growers have their own independent panel of adjudicators. Their findings are all-important. The winners are bombarded with bids to grown and market the new varieties under licence.

Members of the jury walked round the grounds in polyglot groups of seven. There were 93 new varieties to judge.

"She has a nice texture." — "Diese Sorte ist nach einer Woche im Haus noch schön." — "It *is* unusual." — "Très élégante." — "I doubt it will have the same colour in the States."

These were scraps of conversation at Bed No. 42, where members of the jury were scrutinising Julius, a new variety in a colour variously described as copper, old rose and parchment.

It looks like the handiwork of a skilled interior decorator and would well match old leather or yellowing prints.

The Americans are thrilled by such colour combinations. Adjudicators lined the rose-beds, sniffing, handling leaves and flowers and discussing figures.

Delegates of national associations of rose-growers were in attendance. So were rose-lovers from among the general public.

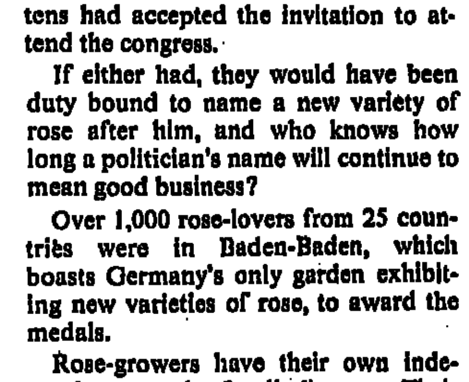
One was a member of the Belgian nobility. She has roses 280 years old growing in the garden of her chateau and was taught to love roses from an early age.

There was a lady from Northern Ireland who bought an old house and began to look for period roses to match her home. She went on to become a research scholar clued up on the roses of antiquity.

Then there was the retired local authority director of horticulture and the collector of rose pictures from South Africa.

They are the sort of people who tour the rose gardens of this world in much the same way as others visit concerts or race meetings.

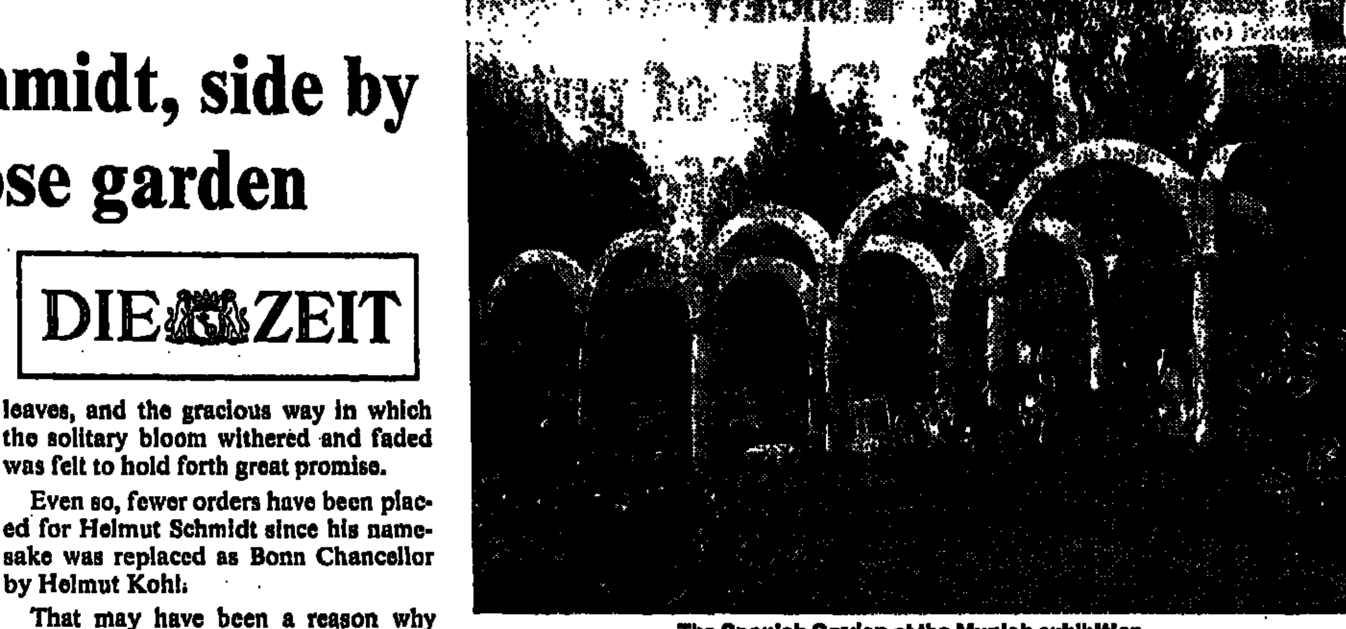
Continued on page 14



[Wi]nning masterpiece ... the Asche[nbrödel blo]om, (Photo: Strobel/Die Welt)

[Kon]rad Adenauer is a big plant with [a po]werful scent. It was christened by [Chan]cellor Adenauer himself at Baden-[Bad]en in 1950 and is still a favourite 30 [years] later.

[W]hen this year's congress opened [there] was only a single Helmut Schmidt [in bl]oom. Only one flower was in bloom [but] there were countless buds, healthy



The Spanish Garden at the Munich exhibition. (Photo: dpa)

Seven million visit garden show in Munich

Over seven million people have seen the Munich horticultural show since it opened at the end of April. One reason is that IGA '83, to use its German initials, provides information as well as pleasure.

There are, for instance, the leaflets issued by the Horticultural Association. They are full of information about plants and groups of plants.

They go into the principles of gardening and how to lay a garden out, planting and tending a garden, and special kinds of garden and plant-growing.

The leaflets convey so much information that they are almost a substitute for a gardening manual.

With all the facts they list at your command you can go on to take a closer look at over 20 gardens laid out to cover special topics.

Many an IGA visitor has camera and notebook at the ready to pinpoint details of interest, but the leaflets outline many items of more generally valid advice.

The smaller the garden, the less it needs a lawn. Bushes and herbaceous borders are expensive but need less care and attention.

A pebble bed dotted with bushes and ornamental grass, neither of which require much water, or a few beds either at ground level or slightly elevated by means of cornerstones will give a garden ample green.

So, for that matter, will a few shrubs and creepers.

The many ways in which water can be used in gardens have always been eyecatchers at horticultural shows. Munich is no exception.

Other ideas include front gardens, which are often the Cinderella of private homes, as are the gardens of terraced houses.

Since they lack borders they are not the usual handkerchief pattern, but they are only effective if kept uniformly neat and matching.

There are lightweight roof gardens in which to keep pot plants during the winter. An alternative is trough gardens, also for the roof but designed for water plants.

Let them include pots for summer flowers, shrubs, vegetables and kitchen gardens, rose gardens with a Baroque look, Biedermeier gardens complete

Continued on page 15

[Fra]nkfurt's Palmengarten will next [year] rival Stuttgart and Planten un [Blom]en, Hamburg, in the majesty of its [tropic]al hothouses.

[Di]rector Gustav Schoser is busy re[planning] the hothouses as individual sec[tions] of tropical environment. The first [is du]e to be opened next year.

[The]y will feature monsoon country, [varie]ties of jungle and salt-water man[grove] swamps.

[In] 1986 they are to be followed by [more] houses featuring plants from [arid] areas such as the semi-desert, [sc]rubs and savannah.

[The] plants, some of which are alrea[dy ac]climatising themselves to life in [Frank]furt, will be joined by birds and [small] animals that live in the respective [habit]ats.

[Plan]ts arranged in neat rows are no [longe]r in demand, Herr Schoser says. [Wha]t the public want is entire land[scapes] as a reminder of holidays in far[away] corners of the world or in botani[cal pr]eparation for long journeys of this [kind].

[In]dividual plants are less in de[mand] than typical, widespread varieties [that] grow at every street corner in their [natu]ral habitat.

[Vis]itors are also to be able to see for [them]selves fruit trees and other crop

Old hothouses get a new lease of life

To illustrate the importance of water for various environments arid and humid zones will be shown side by side, with only narrow barriers between them.

The new conservatories, designed by Constance architect Hermann Blomeier, are only a part of the rejuvenation Frankfurt's 115-year-old Palmengarten is currently undergoing.

Only a handful of the old hothouses are to continue in use as a green lecture theatre where groups of schoolchildren and adults will be able to learn more about exhibits.

Lectures and courses will be held and practical horticultural work taught by qualified staff to enable visitors to gain a deeper insight into plants that grow at the Palmengarten.

A rose garden, a pond section, Japanese, rock and moorland gardens are also to be laid on.

The Palmengarten is owned by the city, and Frankfurt is happy to pay for the privilege. By 1986 the renovation is expected to have cost about DM50m.

Some DM24.2m have already been allocated by the council, and Herr Schoser is confident the rest will be approved too.

In his view the Palmengarten's function has changed from that of a showcase to a collection designed to ensure the survival of species.

In a special laboratory rare varieties of orchid are bred to prevent their extinction. The offspring are not only exchanged with other botanical gardens but also sent back to their countries of origin.

The Frankfurt orchid collection is already the largest in Europe. It has over 5,000 varieties and is continually being expanded.

Ever since plans for a new-look Palmengarten began in 1978 the planners have had trouble with a tennis club that has been housed in the ground for nearly 70 years.

It has influential members who have succeeded so far in stalling bids to have the club expelled to a less attractive location.

Instead of the tennis club there are plans to lay out gardens where the blind can smell and feel plants to their hearts' content.

Sabine Schäfer/dpa

(Die Welt, 2 August 1983)

■ SOCIETY

Talk of putting women into uniform raises hackles

The prickly issue of whether the armed forces should use women to maintain recruiting levels has been raised again.

The only women in the Bundeswehr uniform at the moment are doctors. But Bonn is thinking of widening its scope because it exects a manpower shortage by the end of the decade.

Views on the issue are divided. Just before the Bundestag's summer recess MP Ursula Krone-Appuhn (CSU) urged Parliament to permit women to join the forces and undergo tough basic training.

Her SPD colleague Herta Däubler-Gmelin retorted sharply: "Under no circumstances." The idea was unthinkable.

The issue is so controversial that politicians have never really tackled it.

Former Defence Minister Hans Apel procrastinated by appointing a panel to assess the pros and cons. Manfred Wörner, the current Minister, does not seem to think much of panels, but he is quite happy to let a lot of lawyers spend a lot of time examining the Constitution for any possible scope that would allow women to serve in the forces.

Since the debate 15 years ago on the emergency laws, the Constitution has had an Article 12a. Section 4 of this article severely restricts the use of women.

It states: "If, in case of a war, the need for civilian services in the fields of sanitation and medicine cannot be met by military installations and volunteers, women aged between 18 and 65 can be drafted into such services through legislation. They shall under no circumstances carry arms."

Any ideas Bonn might have on this issue must stay within the framework of Article 12a. It can therefore be taken for granted that:

- Only women who have volunteered can become soldiers;
- There can be no draft for women;
- Women can only serve in units where they will not be involved in armed combat.

Theoretically, it should of course be possible to amend the Constitution and introduce the draft for women. This would require a two-thirds Bundestag majority.

But no politicians, male or female, seriously consider this.

This makes it the more grotesque that leftist groups and members of the Peace Movement are "outraged" because, as they maintain, somebody urged a draft for women. This is totally unfounded.

But women are nevertheless no rarity in the Bundeswehr. There have been women doctors in uniform since 1975 (85 so far), their highest rank being colonel. But these women officers are not in combat units.

What do women themselves think of Bundeswehr service?

An opinion survey in the spring of 1982 showed that 71 per cent of women aged between 18 and 24 are in fvour of it; 21 per cent would consider volunteering.

The figures show that women in the appropriate age group are interested in the Bundeswehr as an occupation. This reveals trends that long ago led to the opening up of the armed forces to women in other countries.

In the Western democracies, it was the drive for equality between the sexes that gained women access to the forces.

In the USA, the drive was aided by the fact that the humiliation of the Vietnam defeat resulted in fewer volunteers. Later, the abolishment of the draft forced the Administration to seek new ways of filling the ranks.

Women, along with negroes and other ethnic groups hoping to rise on the social scale, helped fill the gap. Today, just under 200,000 US soldiers are women: nine per cent of the armed forces.

The use of women in the forces of communist countries has other causes. This tradition dates back to the revolutionary struggle in which women also had to hold their own.

Part of the equality between the sexes in communist countries is the right of women volunteers to serve in the armed forces.

In this country, it was the realisation that — as a result of the low birthrate years following the introduction of the pill — there would be a shortage of recruits to fill the ranks that triggered the public debate on women in the Bundeswehr.

Naturally, many women resent being regarded as stopgaps. This has helped fuel much political opposition to the still unclear plans of the Defence Ministry.

The so-called Long Term Commission under Hans Apel recommended that the shortfall of recruits be met by extending the basic service of a draftee and by opening some 30,000 Bundeswehr jobs to women volunteers. The jobs were selected with the constitutional ban on armed service for women in mind.

A subsequent closer analysis pared down the number of these jobs.

Since women cannot become part of any mobilisation plan due to their volunteer status, the Defence Ministry's latest figures show that less than 15,000 women soldiers could become available to the Bundeswehr.

Moreover, women in barracks would in all likelihood revolutionise what is traditionally a men's world. The men would have to change their attitude and see their male role in a different light.

This has been demonstrated by the experiences made in the US and other Western forces.

What happens when a w[...] of a military truck lacks t[...] takes to change a wheel?

The macho Defence Mi[...]ners never ask themselve[...]tions. They are staff officer[...] interest is to maintain the [...] the Bundeswehr.

What they do ask themselv[...] technical equipment, tools [...] installations must be change[...] in dual form to make them [...] use by women?

They also ask themselves [...] it would cost to equip barrack[...] table sanitary facilities or to [...]rate barracks to provide ad[...] separate accommodation for [...]

Another thing that occupie[...]ners is how to spare the B[...] the disciplinary problems the[...] have in mixed units.

Female superiors have a [...] prevailing over their male sub[...] and promiscuity frequently p[...] atmosphere in US barracks. [...] rapes despite stiff penalties[...] more, 20 per cent of the wome[...] are out of action due to of preg[...]

America's women soldiers [...] fighting for inclusion in com[...] So far, they are eligible for ab[...] three of the 300 different mili[...]gories.

Justice and Interior Ministry [...]perts in this country are still try[...] gure out what the constitution[...] women carrying arms actually[...]

For instance: Is it unarmed [...] head a unit of a transport batt[...] lieutenant? The military say it [...] unrealistic to believe that a [...] could do this without carrying [...] machine gun.

The bugbear thus lies in the [...]

Rüdiger [...]

(Die Welt, 5 [...])

Hamburg police are beginning to use policewomen for a wide range of law-enforcement functions.

Police broaden the role of female officers

The city, one of the six States to use policewomen, has had women on the force since 1945, but their roles have been strictly limited.

Since 1980, 50 women a year have been enlisted as part of a pilot scheme to test them over a wide range of police work.

Last year, 37 policewomen serving in four hand-picked precincts were observed by a firm of psychological management consultants, the *Unternehmens- und Behördenberatungs GmbH Forum Z.*

The women had a hard time: 40 per cent of the male officers interviewed by *Forum Z* opposed women as part of a patrol, saying that the work was too tough for them.

The police officers' view of their work is based on many of their own touch and go experiences and injuries in the line of duty.

But are these hard men not simply unwilling (or incapable?) to solve conflicts without violence?

Women lack the physical strength needed to get tough, and many consider this a shortcoming, says *Forum Z.*

The study concludes that policewomen have a soothing effect in conflicts. This can have the effect of gaining time until either reinforcements arrive or the situation resolves itself.

Non-violent settlement takes time, however, and this is why 40 per cent of the male police reject them. But the public is in favour.

As far back as 1979, Dr Carol Anne Martin arrive at similar conclusions following a three-year survey of the work of policewomen in the USA.

She found that most policewomen picked this job to help and protect others. They were motivated by "unselfishness," said Dr Martin in her study.

Some male police officers maintain that little is known about the psychological stability of women and that they are therefore a risk factor. Others say that women need protection. Do they perhaps want a closed shop?

It is difficult to integrate women in the shift system and it will be up to them to prove that they can do it.

Prejudices and sensitivities by male colleagues have led to an aloofness that hampers full integration still further.

As a result, women have to use their social graces in their day-to-day dealings with male colleagues if they are to master the tightrope act between self-assurance and conformism.

But this very adjustment to male attitudes poses a major danger. By doing so, women forfeit the very qualities that give them an edge over their male counterparts and earn themselves only pseudo-recognition. The mistrust remains.

In trying to justify their s[...] male policemen keep looking [...] takes made by policewomen. T[...] that they usually excuse by s[...] can happen to anybody" if it [...] to a man elicits the stereotype [...] "typically female" if it happe[...] woman.

Women are therefore unde[...] pressure to avoid mistakes. A[...] generally better performance [...] greater selectivity in hiring help[...]

Of the 64 policewomen emp[...] 1980, 27 were high school grad[...] 1981, the ratio rose to 51 out of [...] in 1982 it was 20 out of 29.

But good intellectual qualif[...] are useless for police work if th[...] is anything to go by. Instead, F[...] recommends that the intellectua[...] dard required of women appl[...] adapted to the average male st[...]

The reason: "A markedly hi[...]tellectual standard of women i[...]mental to their integration. The [...] woman finds no challenge to he[...]lectual ability, and this leads to [...]faction and detachment from he[...] colleagues — thus hampering [...]nious cooperation."

Forum Z therefore recommend[...] the selective recruiting princip[...] women be dropped.

There is still much opposition [...] women will have to overcome [...] must take the discrimination [...] them with equanimity, and th[...] goes for the many derogatory [...] pinned on them by their male c[...]gues.

Giselher Sch[...]

(Die Zeit, 29 Ju[...])

Continued from page 13

Prizes were awarded. Julius won gold because it was an absolute novelty.

The trend in rose-growing is back to nature. Less interest is being shown in flowers the size of cauliflowers and in stems a metre long.

The small-flowered varieties resembling wild roses are in demand, especially in pastel shades. But the classic red rose will always be the most important.

Over the centuries so much significance has been attributed to the red rose for its popularity ever to wane.

Gisela Mahlmann

(Die Zeit, 29 July 1983)

[...] gambling industry encourages [ha]bitual gambling. It has found [ways] to get around regulations govern[ing o]ne-armed bandits, says a Bremen [psych]ologist.

[The] accusation is contained in a doc[toral] thesis which was earlier this year [publi]shed incomplete. The industry [won] a court injunction preventing full [publi]cation.

[A] higher court has thrown out that [decisi]on. It said that Gerhard Meyer, [ha]d not made any incorrect claims [say]ing: "Though the construction of [these] machines is governed by legisla[tion a]imed at preventing pathological [gamb]ling, the industry has found ways [of cir]cumventing these regulations."

■ MODERN LIVING

Gambling industry accused of encouraging addiction

This passage was blacked by the original court decision.

Three hundred copies were published of Meyer's incomplete *Geldspielautomaten mit Gewinnmöglichkeit — Objekte pathologischen Glücksspiels?* (One-armed Bandits — Objects of Pathological Gambling?). Now it can be published in full.

Meyer, who went as far as Las Vegas to do research, sees the main danger in the new generation of gambling machines that enable the gambler to raise his possible winnings to up to DM200 by pressing a button.

It is this risk button that poses the greatest temptation and can lead to habitual gambling, says Meyer.

The court of appeals agreed. The allegation was "indisputably true", and permissible in a scientific work.

Though the mechanics and gambling systems of these machines conformed to the letter of the regulations they were contrary to the spirit and purpose of the law.

Meyer's study was prompted by an acquaintance whom one-armed bandits had turned into a compulsive gambler needing specialised treatment.

His work is supported by gamblers' self-help groups. Even so, he had to face endless court charges brought against him by manufacturers and operators. In one instance, he was faced with a DM500,000 claim for damages.

A new edition of the study is to be produced. The old edition, though incomplete, has been sold out.

The author and his Bochum publisher are certain that this is the first book on one-armed bandit gambling to be published in the Federal Republic of Germany.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 3 August 1983)

[D]ead man lives, [b]ut it's costly

[A 2]0-year-old man who survived a [r]oad accident but was mistaken for [a fat]ally injured passenger of the same [car m]ust pay for his own funeral.

[Fo]r five days the man was regarded [as de]ad. Now he has been to court to [have] hospital and funeral costs paid by [his] parents from the insurers of the [drivi]ng woman who caused the accident [last] year.

[A] Bonn court has ruled that he is en[title]d to 75 per cent of hospital and re[lated] expenses caused by the accident. [But] it refused to rule on the funeral ex[pens]es, saying that this was not within [its ju]risdiction.

[T]he error was immediately after the [acci]dent when the badly injured driver [was] mistaken for his dead passenger, [wh]o had been mutilated beyond recognition.

dpa

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 3 August 1983)

Law on alcohol sales to youth to be tightened

Laws governing the sale of alcohol to young people are to be tightened, according to the Bonn Minister for Family Affairs, Heiner Geissler.

The Minister, issuing a survey into the use of drugs among young people, quoted the report as saying that 12 per cent of 12 to 14-year olds were allowed by their parents to drink.

Many bought their beer or schnaps at shops despite the fact that selling alcohol to minors was illegal.

One finding was that broken homes could lead to addiction.

The study was prepared by Infratest Health Research and jointly commissioned by the Bonn Family Affairs Ministry and the states.

It asked 11,711 young people aged between 12 and 24 about their use of alcohol and tobacco and drugs, both prescribed and illegal.

Geissler (CDU) said the study has prompted his Ministry to step up its information campaign.

He described an intact family as the best protection for children, saying that the study showed how right the government was in giving absolute priority to its family policy.

The envisaged government measures, he said, would help families become "a haven for their children and would enable them to provide the children with a sense of direction and meaning." He termed the diminishing family cohesiveness "worrisome."

Fifteen per cent of all youngsters interviewed in the survey and 25 per cent of the young drug addicts came from broken homes.

The number of those who described their relations with their parents as poor or very poor rose commensurately with the extent of their drug intake. The same applied to drinkers and heavy smokers.

dpa

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 August 1983)

Garden show

Continued from page 13

with trellises, dovecotes, bowers and garden furniture all in white.

Three gardens on show in Munich have been particularly popular. The first is a plain, do-it-yourself garden with useful plants and room for children to play.

The second is designed for middle age with greater emphasis on leisure value and more expensive plants. The third is an easier-to-manage garden for older people.

Many other parts of the Munich show are full of information to sow the seeds of bright ideas. There is the Alpine meadow, the Alpine garden, the clematis knoll, the dahlia arena, the moorland garden, special gardens for the iris and the lily, a back-to-nature garden, a rose garden, shrubberies for sunlight, semi-darkness and shade, biotopes for water plants and the ecological garden.

There is so much to see if only one had time. The roses and dahlias are still in full bloom. The show will be open until 9 October.

The next IGA will be held in Berlin in 1985 and it will be interesting to see what is planned and is already being laid on there.

Herbert Raabe

(Der Tagesspiegel, 7 August 1983)

Credo of an unloved soccer thug: I love Hitler and Mao

Soccer rowdies create an atmosphere of something between civil war and a game of cowboys and Indians, says a study by the German Research Association (DFG).

Rioting connected with soccer matches is not because of social deprivation or because of any desire to remedy social injustice.

The report was compiled by Saarbrücken lawyer, criminologist and sociologist Professor Kurt Weis.

He says the hooligans are politically uninformed. They romanticise Mao, Hitler and Che Guevara — all at the same time.

Some wear both swastikas and the terrorist Red Army Fraction emblem.

Stiff police controls and penalties frequently restore a semblance of peace at soccer grounds, but they also provide that prickling atmosphere of a tightrope walk between legality and illegality, writes Professor Weis.

At major matches, adults as well as juveniles became vulgar and aggressive.

The pure soccer fan had a carnival attitude and had no intention of breaking the law.

Most of the real rioting that had become an end in itself came from hardcore vandals, many with a criminal record.

Much rioting seemed to be showing off. Evidence of this was the provocative attitude of hooligans towards the law.

Unlike with squatters and political demonstrators, this rioting has no political motivation.

Professor Weis stresses that the wearing of anti-constitutional and anti-foreigner buttons and badges and the gestures and songs used by the rowdies are all part of their aim to "provoke at any cost."

He notes that the police have stepped up their actions against neo-Nazi emblems and warns of the danger of "pushing fans into right wing extremism.

Unlike with other youth rioting by groups such as rockers, skinheads or punks, fan rioting was not socially motivated. It neither stemmed from being socially under-privileged nor aimed at remedying social injustice.

Professor Weis says, however, the need of these people to find in a group the "warmth and haven denied them at home."

dpa

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 2 August 1983)

